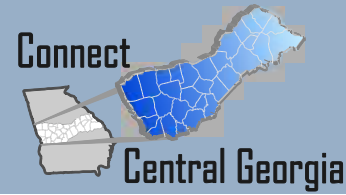




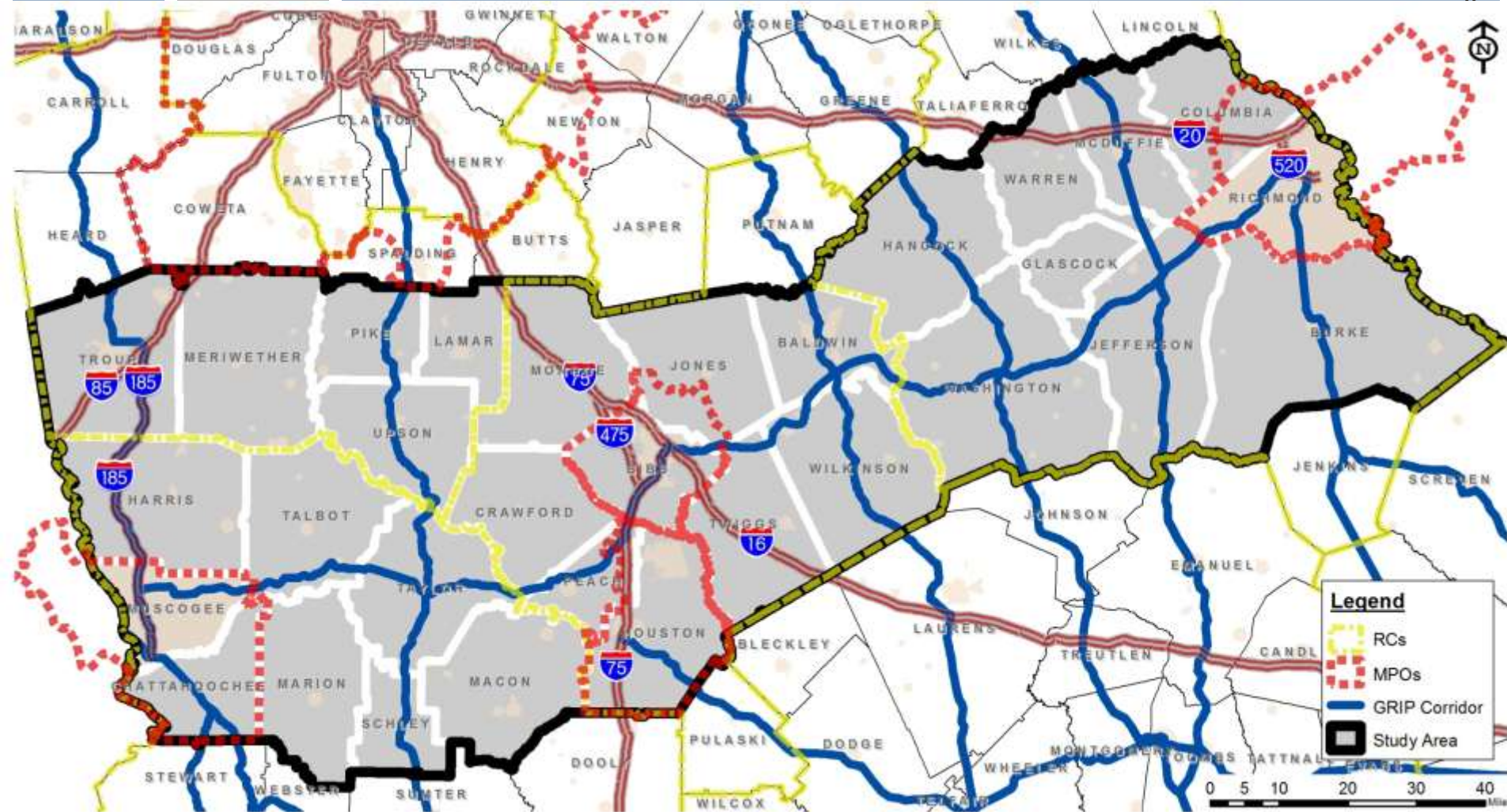
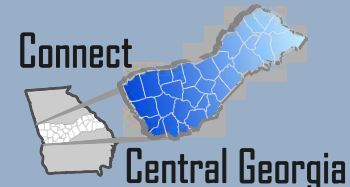
September 10, 2012

Agenda

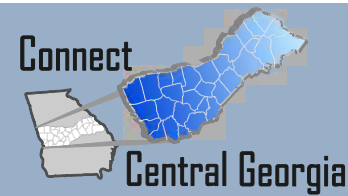


- Study Progress
- Economic Analysis
- Needs Assessment
- Development of Strategies
- Strategic Connections

Study Progress Study Area

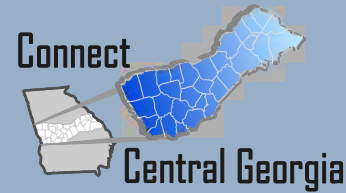


Study Progress Work Tasks



- Stakeholder & Public Involvement (Ongoing)
 - ✓ Data Inventory/Collection
 - ✓ Goals & Objectives
 - ✓ Existing Conditions
 - ✓ Future Conditions – No Build
 - ✓ Scenario Development & Screening
 - ✓ Future Conditions – Scenarios
 - ✓ Potential Improvements Strategies
 - Preliminary Recommendations Development & Evaluation (Today)
- Meeting #1
- Meeting #2
- Meeting #3
- Meeting #4

Study Progress Goals & Objectives



1. Improve **safety**, **accessibility**, and **mobility** options available to people and for freight.
2. Enhance the inter-regional **connectivity** of the transportation system for people and freight.
3. Promote **efficient** system management and operation.
4. Emphasize the **preservation** of the existing transportation system.
5. Protect **quality of life**, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- According to Federal statistics, Central Georgia has lagged the State and U.S. in:
 - Population Growth
 - Jobs Growth
 - Unemployment Rate
 - Wage and Per Capita Income Levels
 - Poverty Levels
- Can transportation investments help create economic opportunity in the region?

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006-2010 five-year estimates

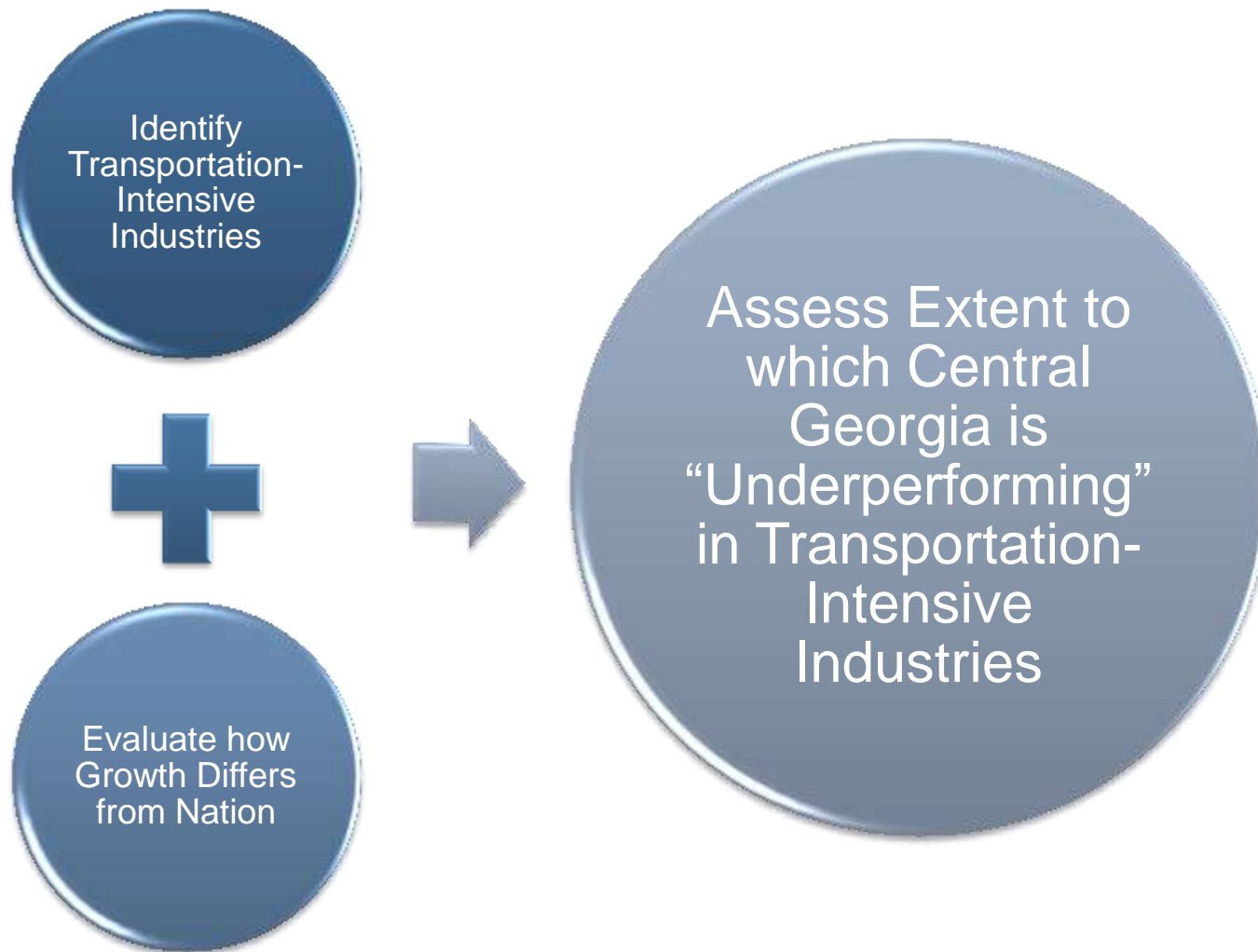
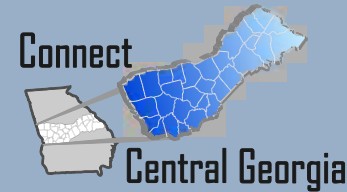
- Issues Affecting Economic Opportunity in Central Georgia include:
 - Education and Workforce
 - Lack of Broadband Access
 - Underutilized Rail Assets
- Central Georgia Strengths:
 - Water Resources
 - Available Land
 - Proximity to Major Markets

Strengths Bode Well for Logistics Based Development

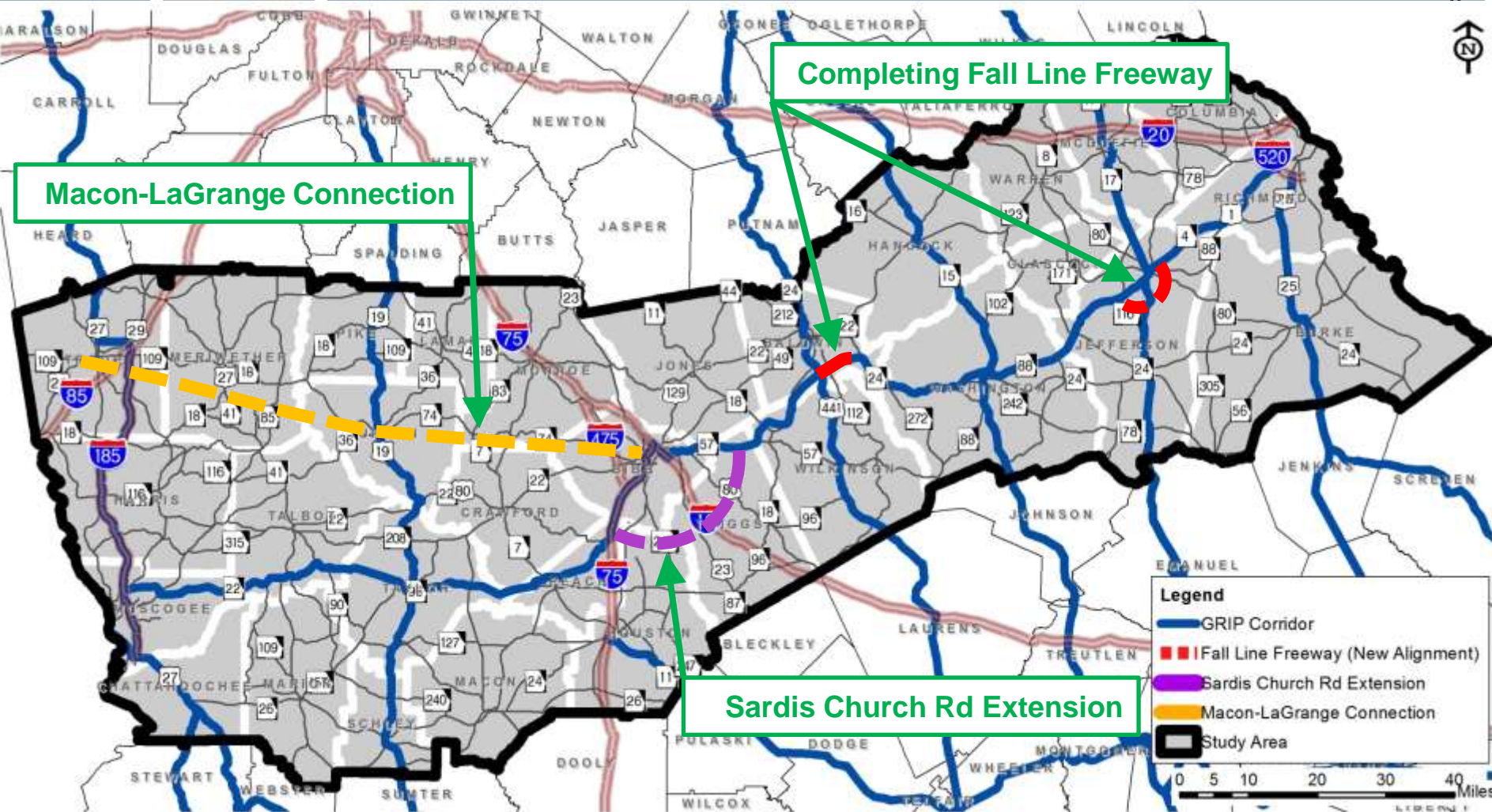
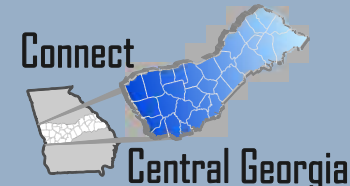
Source: Georgia Competitiveness Initiative, Georgia Competitiveness Initiative Report, January 2012; Stakeholder Interviews, 2011-2012

Economic Analysis

Employment Gap Analysis



Economic Analysis Case Studies

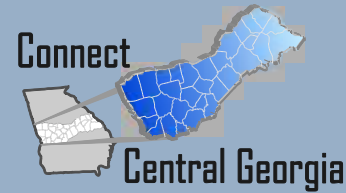


- Macon to LaGrange Connection
 - Facilitate a better connection between port and automotive plants and their suppliers
 - Increase the footprint that warehousing and automotive suppliers could locate
 - Enhance access to the northwestern portion of the study area

- Sardis Church Rd Extension
 - Improve truck movements serving agriculture and natural resource industries such as kaolin
 - Enhance the attractiveness to exporting industries by providing a more direct link to I-16
 - 1,750 acres zoned for industrial would be connected by the Extension
 - Improve flow of traffic south of Macon and enhance connectivity to activity centers such as the Middle GA Regional Airport and Robins Air Force Base

- Completing Fall Line Freeway
 - Complement the growing energy industry
 - New clean coal plant planned in Washington County
 - Two new nuclear reactors are being constructed near Waynesboro (Plant Vogtle)
 - New biomass (uses lumber/wood scraps and tires) plant planned for Jefferson County
 - Provide better connectivity to additional markets
 - Improve traffic and pedestrian safety in downtown Wrens
 - Improved connectivity for activity centers such as Augusta's Bush Airport

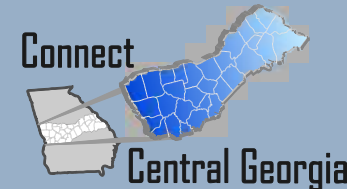
Economic Analysis Case Studies Conclusions



- Improved mobility from Macon to LaGrange could lead to economic benefits and support additional auto-related industry growth
- Improved connectivity around Macon opens up new land areas for transportation warehouse development
- Transportation infrastructure investment, coupled with other initiatives, can reinforce economic development efforts



Needs Assessment Scenario Building



1

How should we get started?



Scope the effort and engage partners.

Considerations: Process goals, objectives, budget, and stakeholder roles and responsibilities.

Output: Work plan.

2

Where are we now?



Establish baseline analysis. Identify factors and trends that affect the state, region, community, or study area.

Considerations: Transportation and land supply, suitability, and demand; state, regional, community, or study-area trends.

Outputs: Transportation systems inventory, land suitability analysis, evaluation of historical trends.

3

Who are we and where do we want to go?



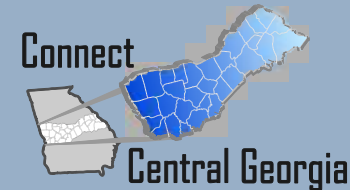
Establish future goals and aspirations based on values of the state, region, community, or study area.

Considerations: Key values and priorities for the state, community, region, or study area.

Outputs: Set of working principles that document broad state, community, region, or study-area goals and preferences.

Source: FHWA Scenario Planning Guidebook

Needs Assessment Scenario Building



4

What could the future look like?



Create baseline and alternative scenarios.

Considerations: Scenario types, analysis tools, travel demand model.

Outputs: Identification of appropriate scenario analysis tool or refinement of travel demand model; baseline and alternative scenarios.

5

What impacts will scenarios have?



Assess scenario impacts, influences, and effects.

Considerations: Indicators to help evaluate scenario performance.

Outputs: Refined or calibrated analysis tool(s) or model(s) if necessary; list of indicators to compare scenario outcomes; qualitative or quantitative assessment of scenario impacts.

6

How will we reach our desired future?



Craft the comprehensive vision. Identify strategic actions and performance measures.

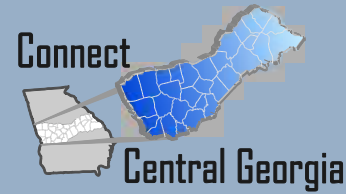
Considerations: Stakeholder feedback on scenarios and the future blueprint; potential actions, investments, or policies to lead the state, community, region, or study area toward the comprehensive vision.

Outputs: Comprehensive vision; action steps; performance measures to assess progress; plan for monitoring progress.

Source: FHWA Scenario Planning Guidebook

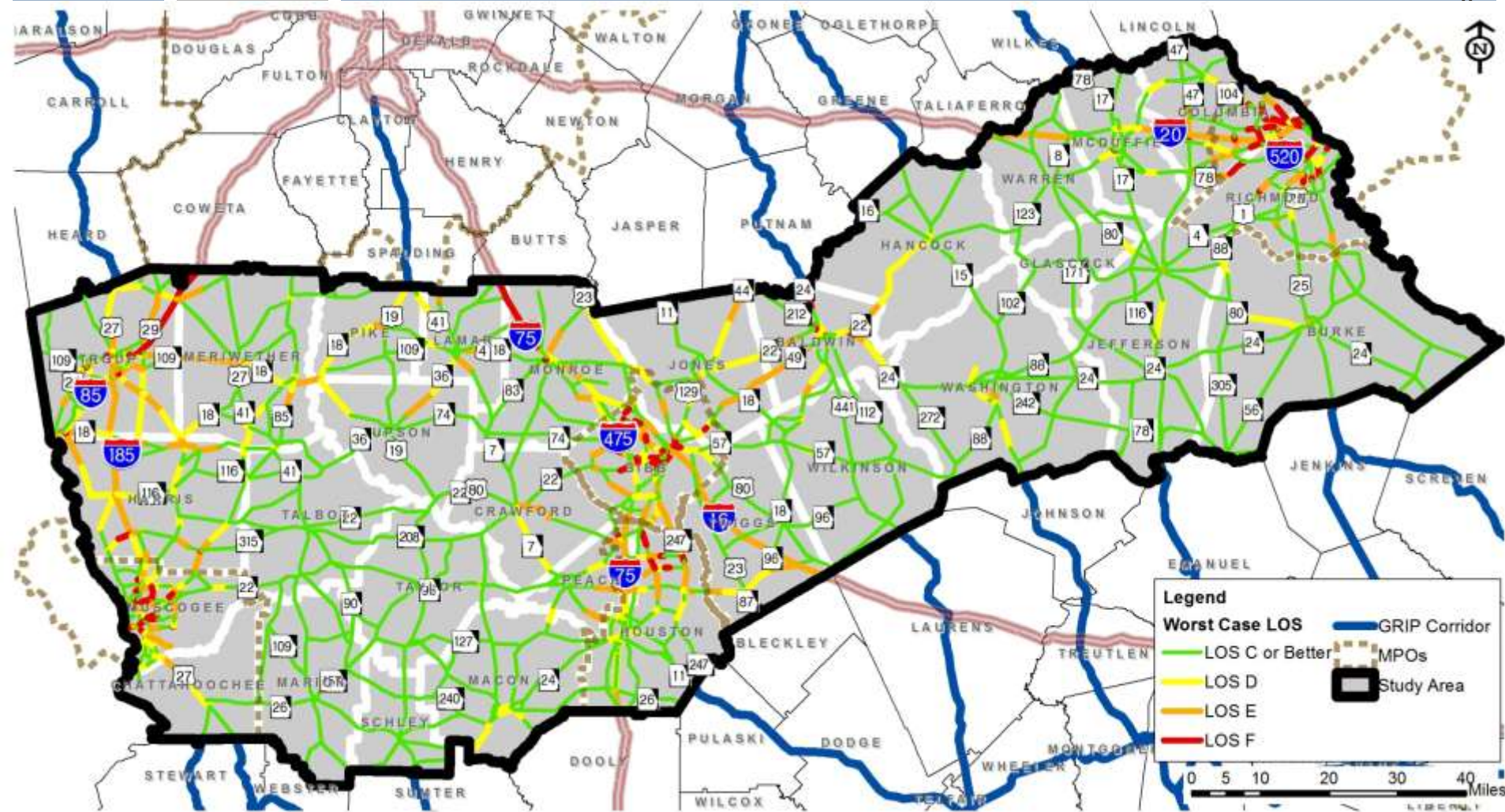
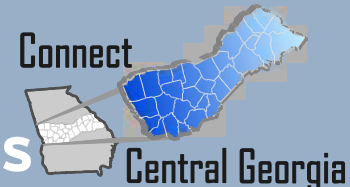
Needs Assessment

What Could the Future Look Like?

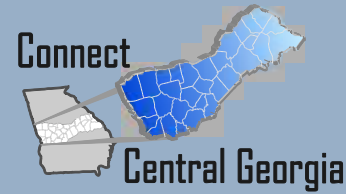


- Scenarios
 1. Baseline Conditions – Existing Plus Committed Projects
 2. What if the Central Georgia region grows slower than expected?
 3. What if the demand for freight is stronger than expected?
 4. Do the TIA projects address transportation needs in the study area?

Needs Assessment 2035 Combined Scenario Conditions

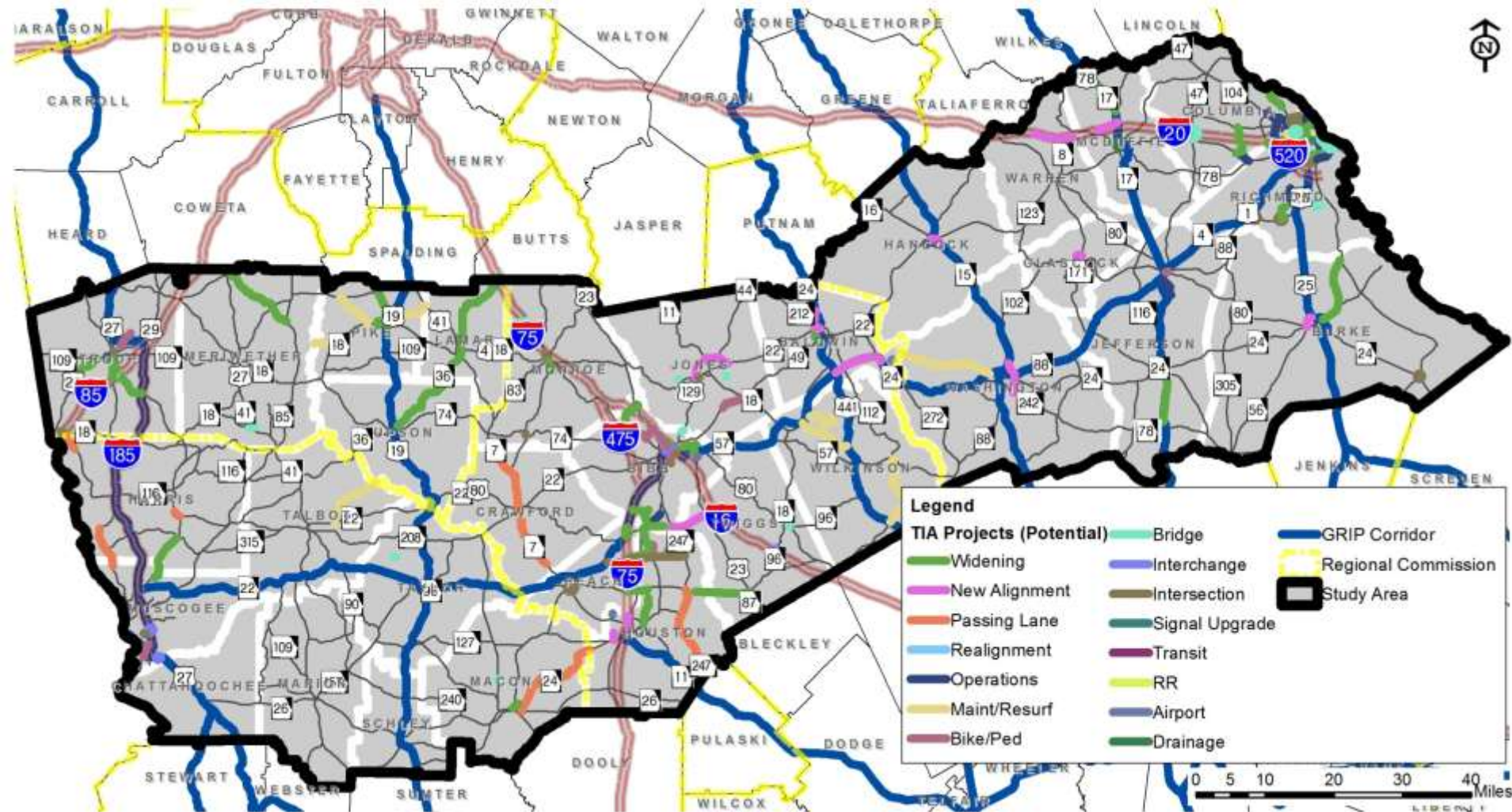
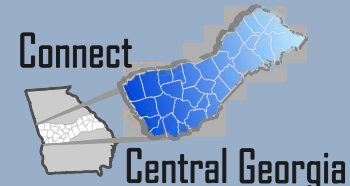


Needs Assessment Transportation Needs



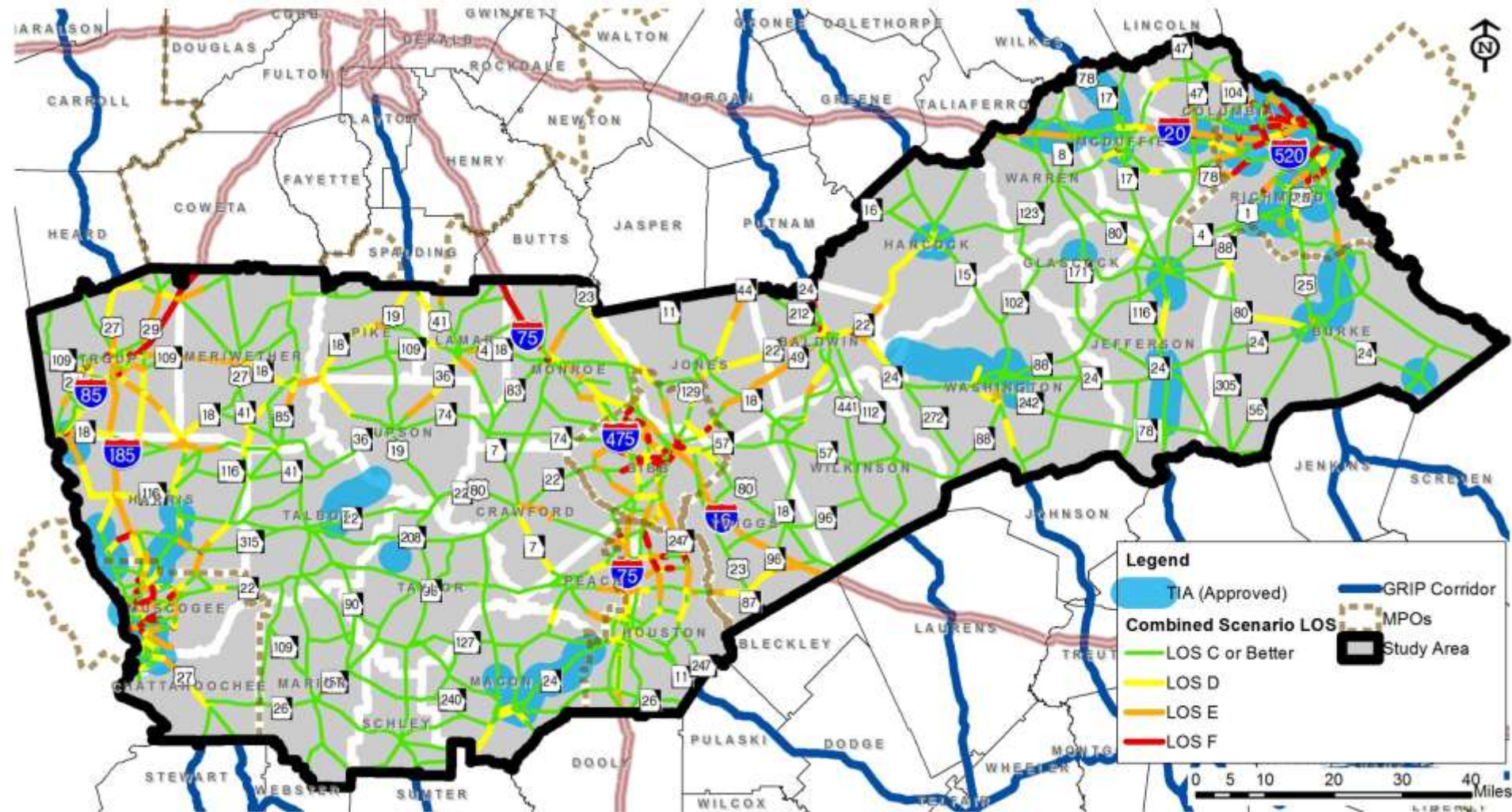
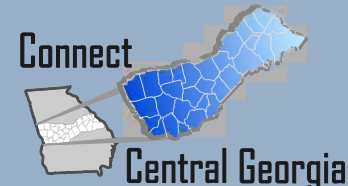
- Freight Transport
 - Limited East-West Routes
 - Moderate Level of Access to Rail
- Safety
 - Moderate Level of Crashes along State Routes
- Bridges
 - Approximately 95% Bridges with a Sufficiency Rating >50
- Transit
 - Need for Coordination between Agencies

Development of Strategies TIA Potential Projects

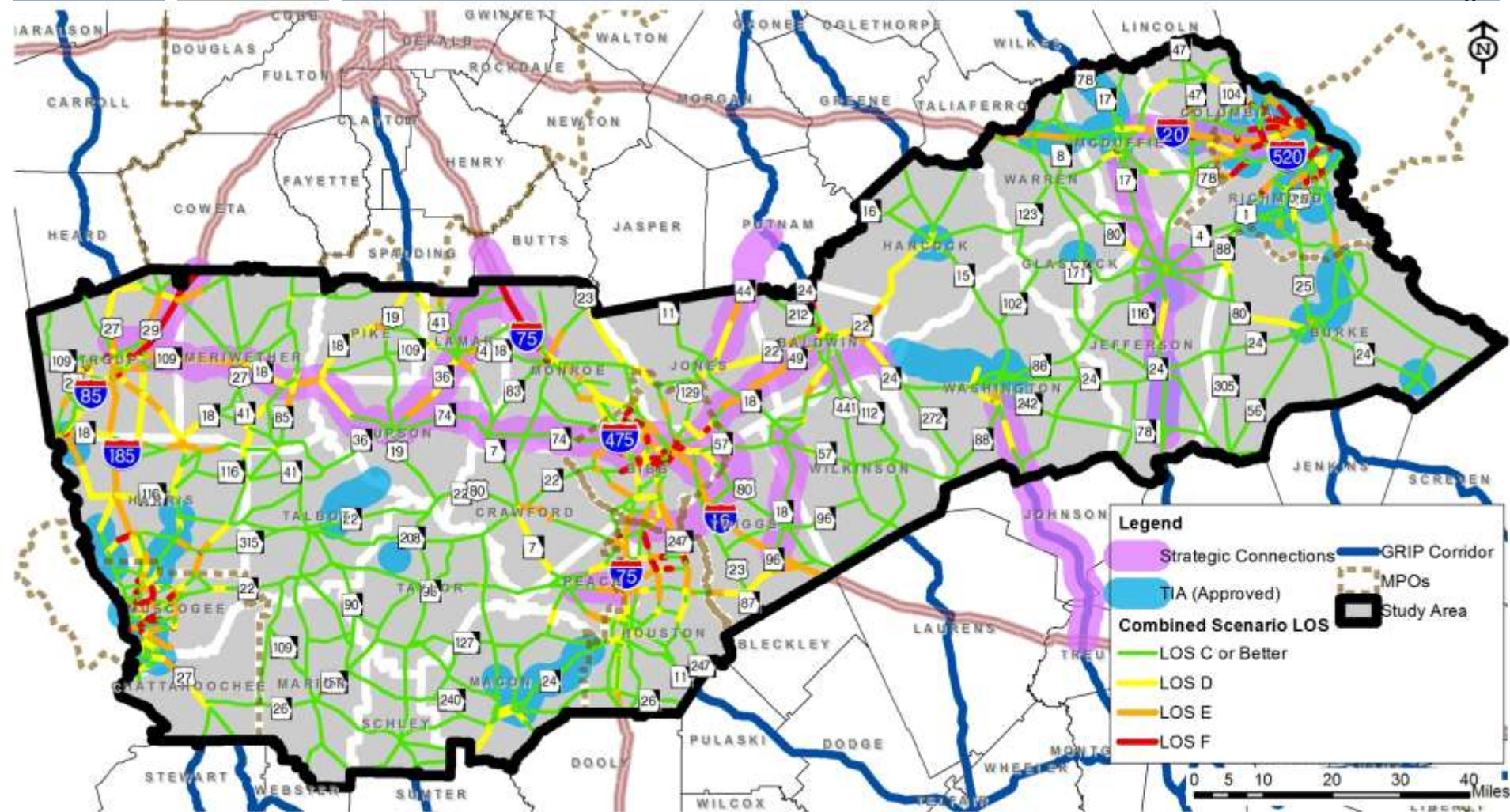
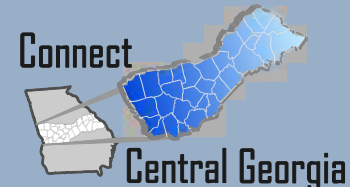




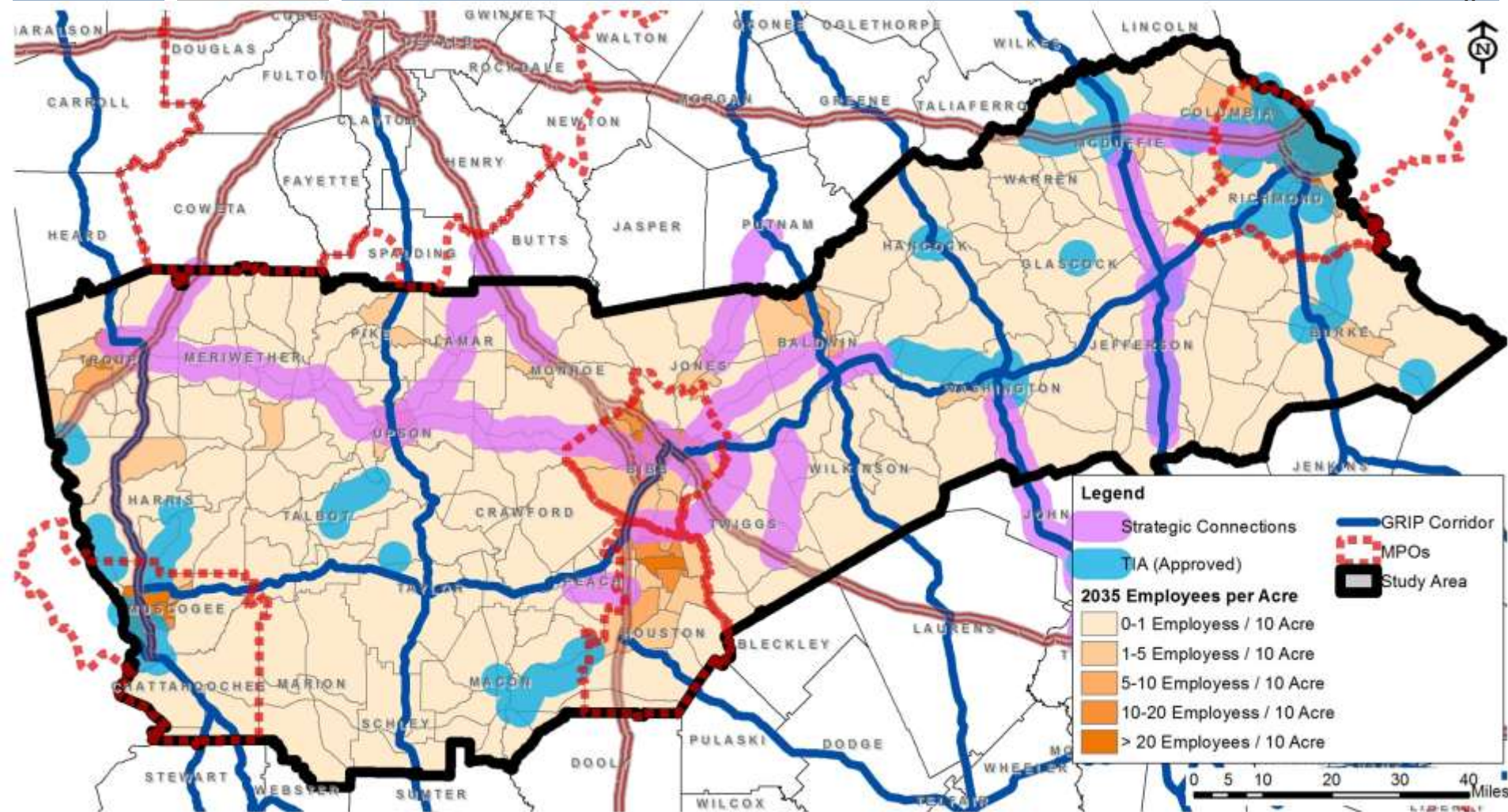
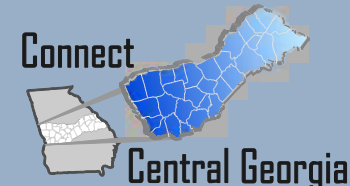
Development of Strategies Applying TIA Projects



Development of Strategies Capacity/Operational Concerns

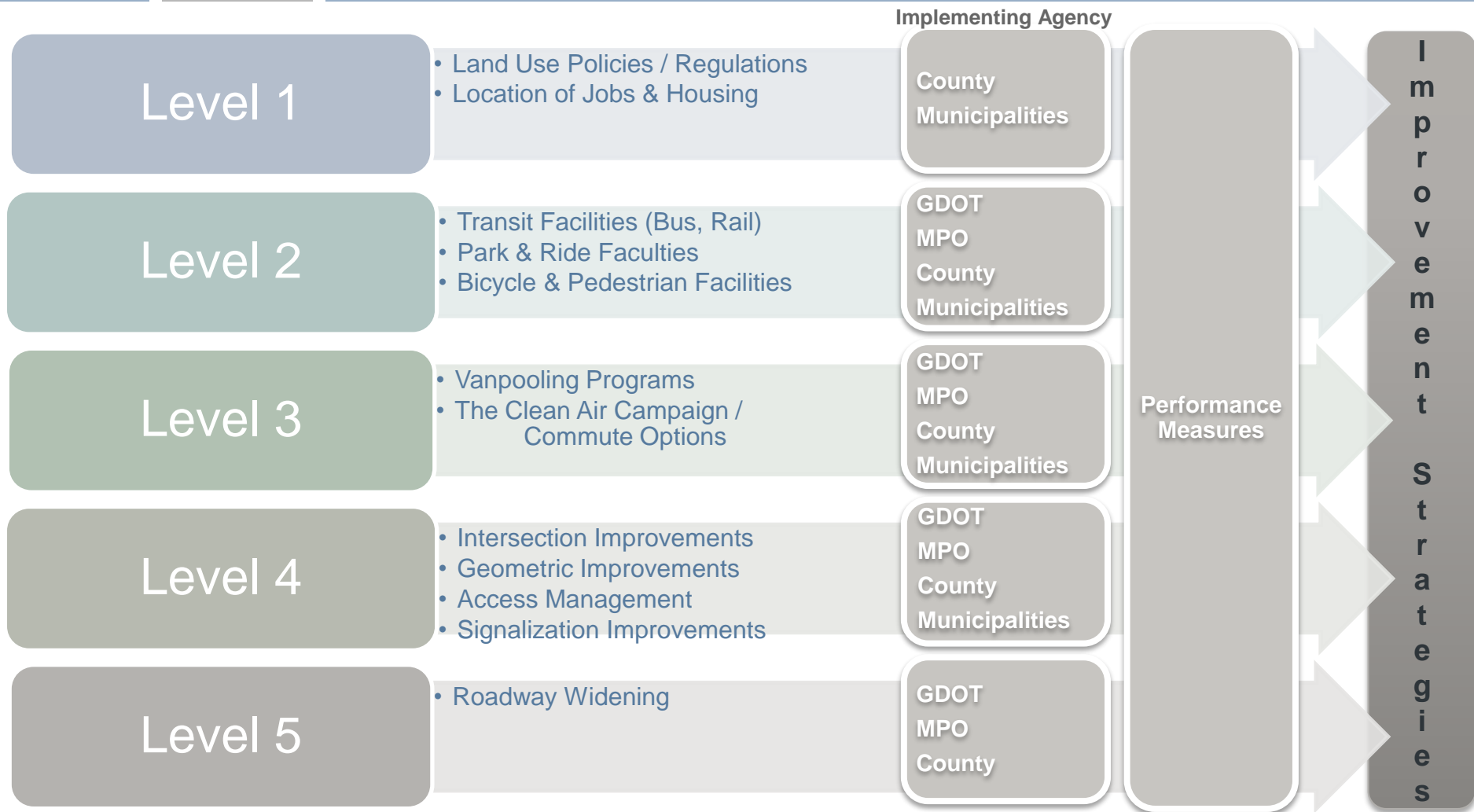
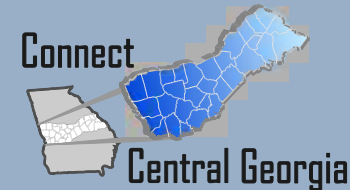


Development of Strategies Economic Opportunity Areas



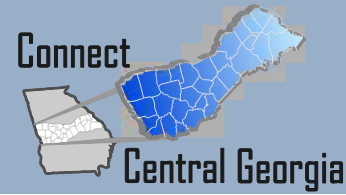


Development of Strategies What We Heard From You



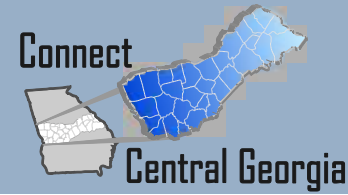
Strategic Connections

What are YOUR Priorities?



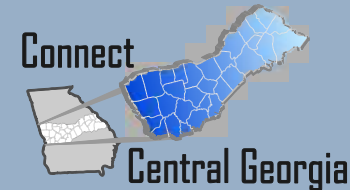
- How do you rank (High, Medium and Low) the Connections in regards to:
 - Importance to the State of Georgia
 - Importance to the Connect Central Georgia Study Area
 - Importance to the Local Area

Strategic Connections



- Fall Line Freeway
- I-75 (Monroe/Lamar Co.)
- I-75 / I-16 (Bibb Co.)
- I-20
- I-85
- US 27 / I-185 Connection
- SR 15
- SR 17 N
- SR 17 S
- SR 18
- SR 36
- SR 44
- SR 49
- SR 96
- SR 109 / SR 74
- Sardis-Sgoda Extension
- Wrens Bypass

Strategic Connections Fall Line Freeway



Details

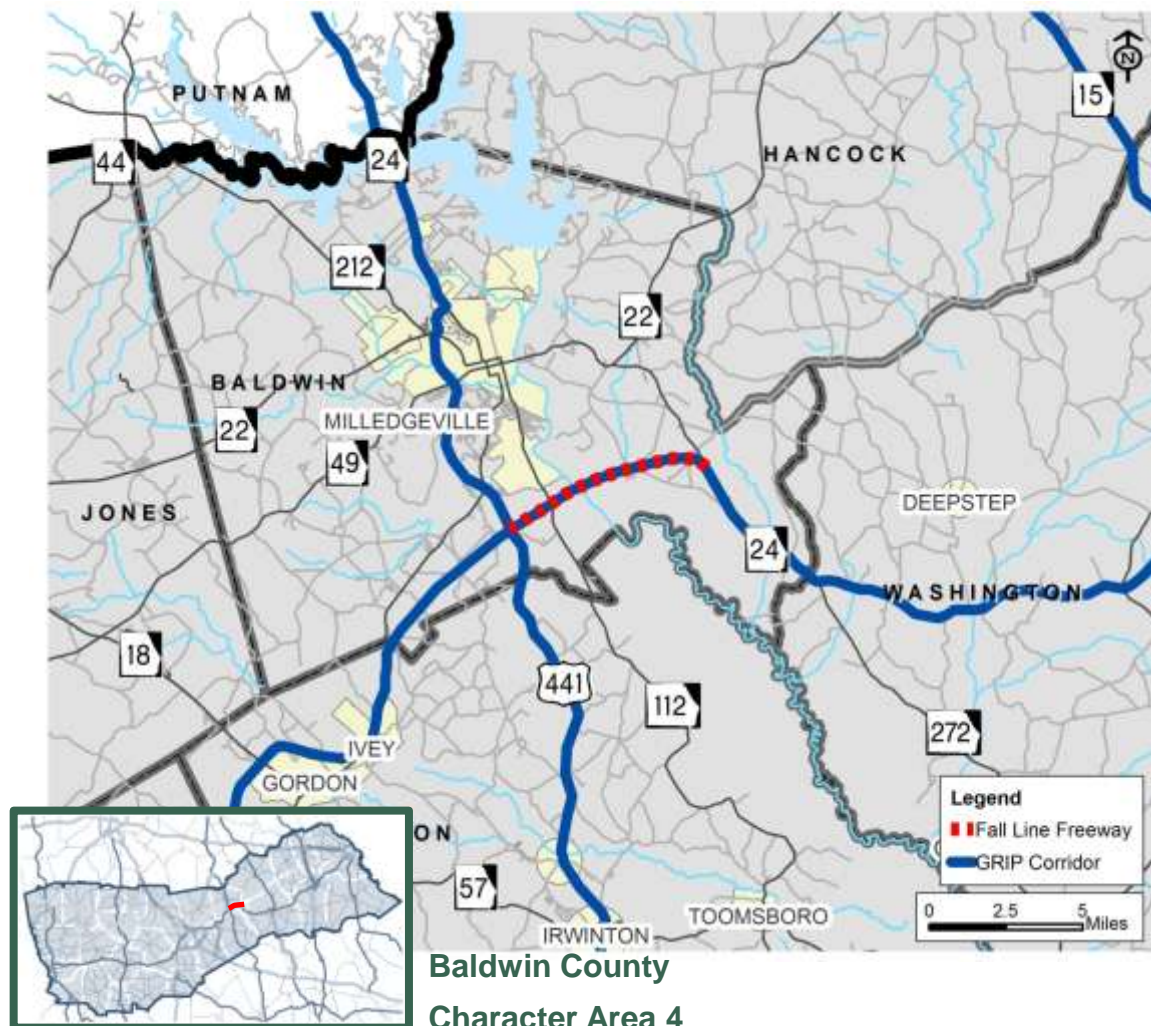
- Length: **7.0 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **4,900 vehicles per day**
- GDOT #: **0000346**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway (new alignment)
 - Currently acquiring ROW
- **GRIP Corridor**

Connections

- Macon, Augusta, bypass for Milledgeville
- US 441, SR 24
- Completes missing GRIP link

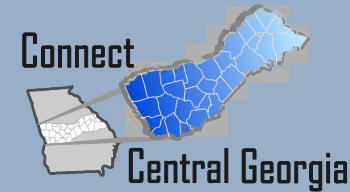
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Oconee River and its associated wetland and flood zone
 - Baldwin State Forest and some agriculture land



Strategic Connections

I-75



Details

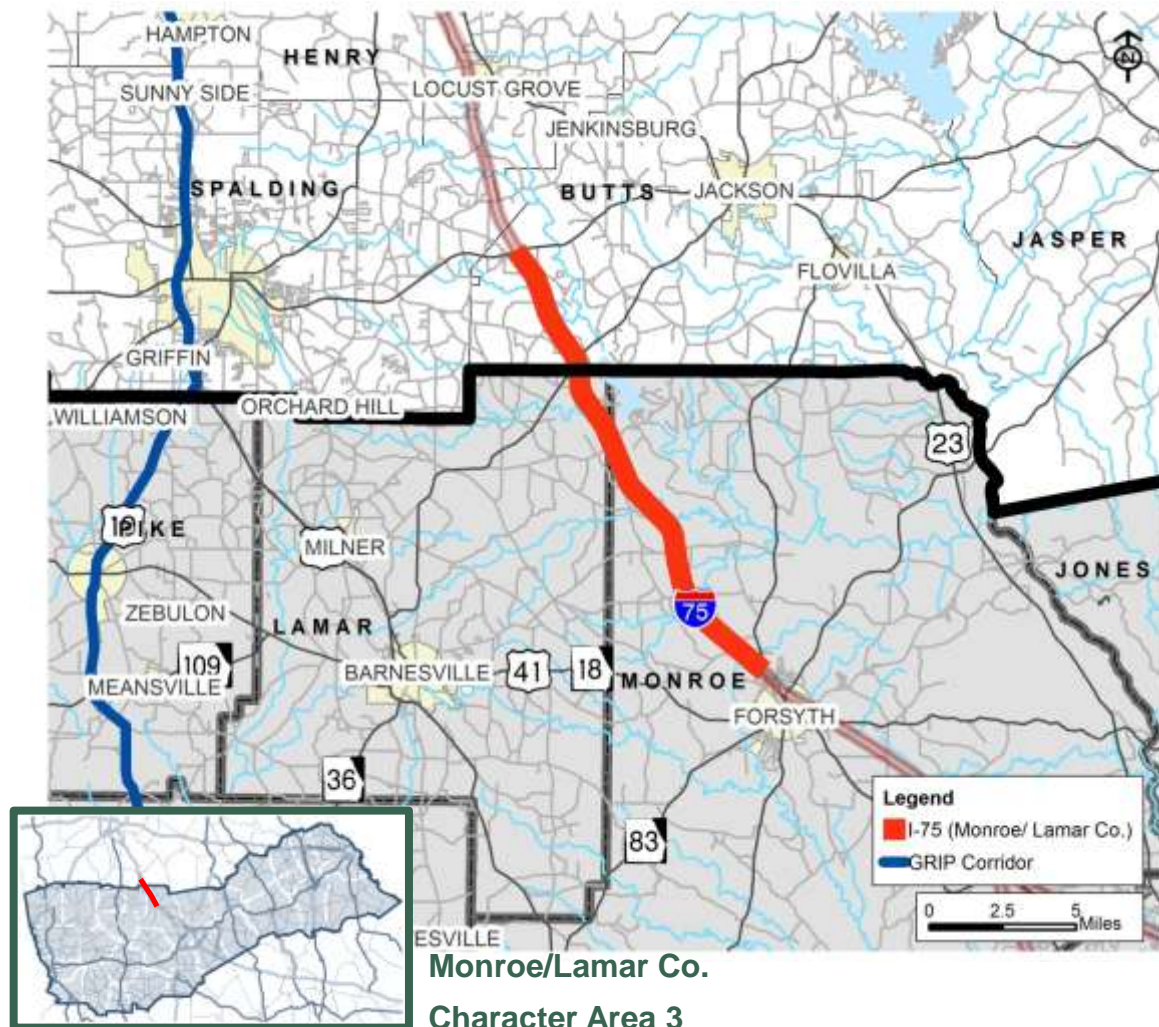
- Length: **17.1 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **92,400 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **E**
- GDOT #: **0007879** (Monroe Co.)
 - 8-lane Interstate
 - No Activities - Long Range
- GDOT #: **0007880** (Lamar/Butts Co.)
 - 8-lane Interstate
 - No Activities - Long Range
- Part of I-75 S Master Plan
- Identified in Freight & Logistics Plan

Connections

- Macon, Forsyth, Atlanta
- Interstate System, SR 16, SR 36, SR 42

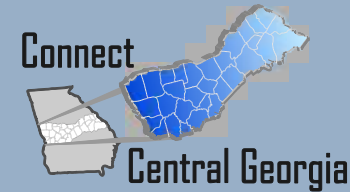
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - High Falls Lake, Buck Creek, Red Creek, Little Towaliga River and associated wetland and flood zone
 - Conservation lands in proximity - High Fall State Park



Strategic Connections

I-75 / I-16



Details

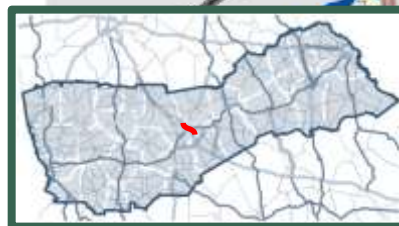
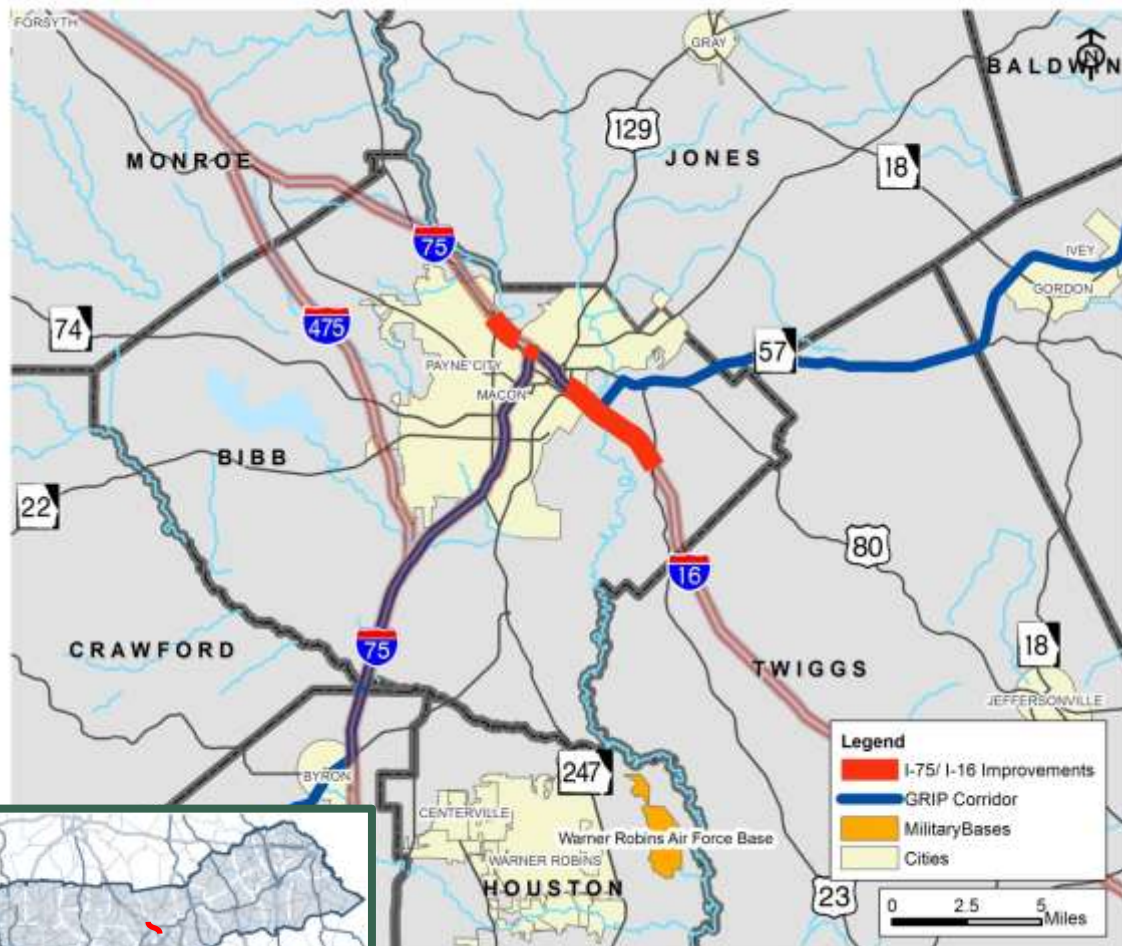
- Length: **7.5 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **34,700 – 62,600 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **E**
- GDOT #: **311400-**
 - 6-Lane Interstate
 - Currently acquiring ROW
- GDOT #: **311410-**
 - Interchange Improvements
 - Currently acquiring ROW
- GDOT #: **311000-**
 - 6-lane Interstate
 - Currently acquiring ROW
- Part of I-75 S Master Plan

Connections

- Macon
- Interstate System, Fall Line Freeway

Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Ocmulgee River & Walnut Creek flood zone
 - USEPA regulated facility in proximity
 - National historical sites and conservational land in proximity - Central City Park Bandstand, Ocmulgee National Monument, and Ocmulgee Mounds

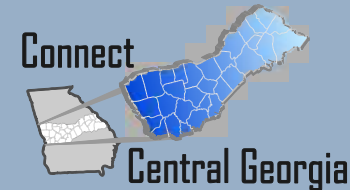


Bibb Co.

Character Area 3

Strategic Connections

I-20



Details

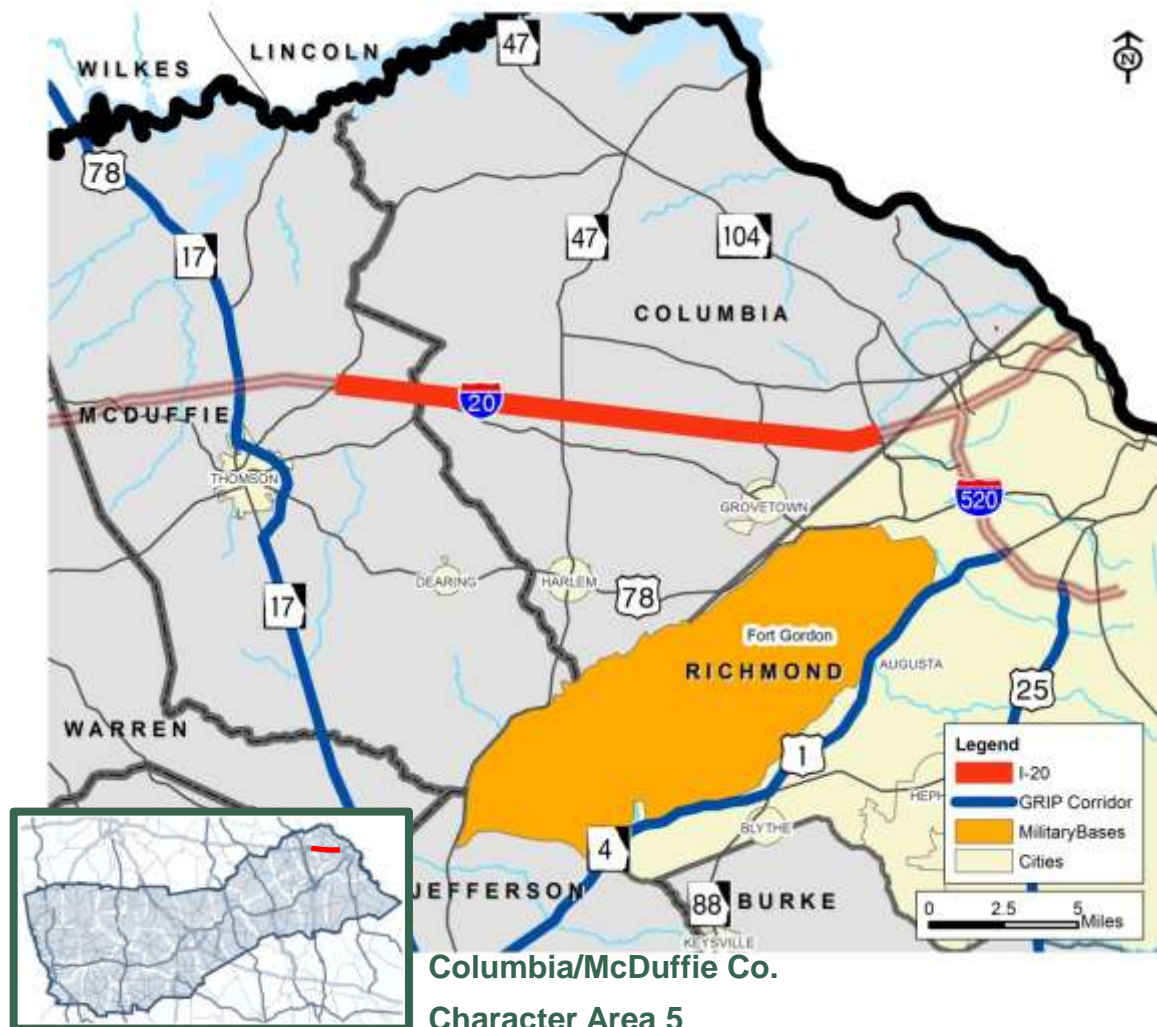
- Length: **18.4 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **52,400 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **E**
- GDOT #: **0008345**
 - 6-Lane Interstate
 - No Activities - Long Range
 - *Need to modify termini to extend west from McDuffie Co. Line to SR 150*

Connections

- Augusta, Thomson
- Interstate System, I-520, SR 17

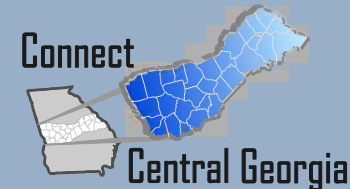
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - USEPA regulated facilities in proximity
 - National historical site and conservation lands in proximity - Carr, Thomas, District; Fort Gordon; Heggie's Rock Preserve



Strategic Connections

I-85



Details

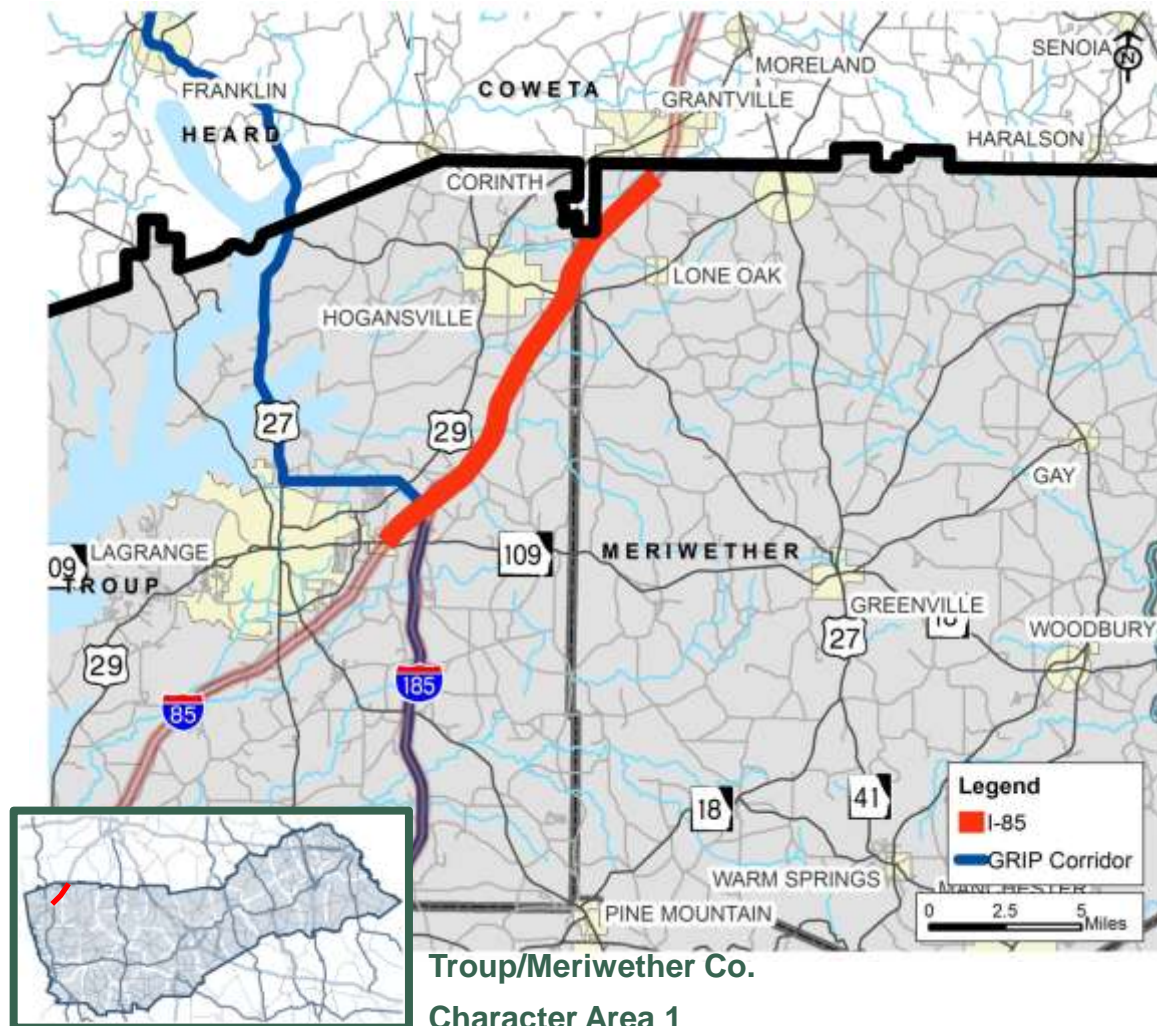
- Length: **15.3 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **63,800 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **F**
- GDOT #: **0003246**
 - 6-Lane Interstate
 - Currently under design
- Identified in Freight & Logistics Plan

Connections

- LaGrange, Columbus, Newnan, Atlanta
- Interstate System, I-185, US 27

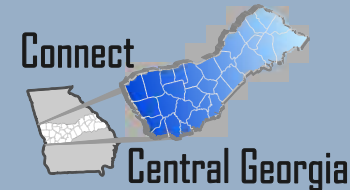
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Shoal Creek, Beech Creek, Flat Creek, Yellowjacket Creek, Blue Creek and associated wetland
 - National historical sites in proximity - Reid-Glanton House and Phillips-Sims House



Strategic Connections

US 27 / I-185 Connection



Details

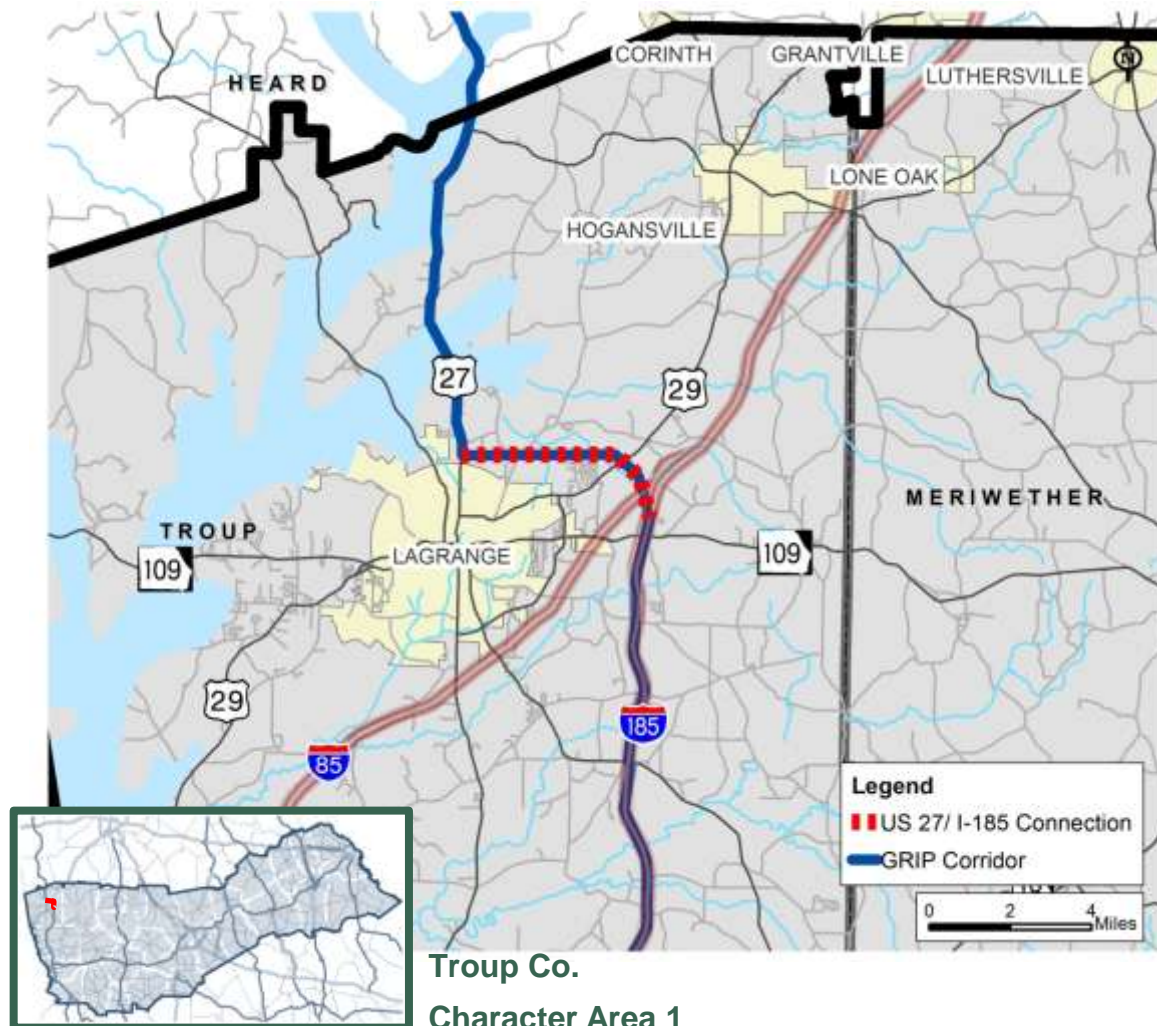
- Length: **5.6 miles**
- 2035 Volume: *TBD*
- **GRIP Corridor**
- New Connection
- Identified in Freight & Logistics Plan

Connections

- Bypass around LaGrange
- I-85, I-185, US 27, US 29
- Completes missing GRIP link

Potential Environmental Concerns

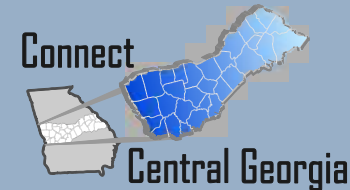
- **Moderate** Impact
 - Rare species area
 - Shoal Creek and associated wetland



Troup Co.
Character Area 1

Strategic Connections

SR 15



Details

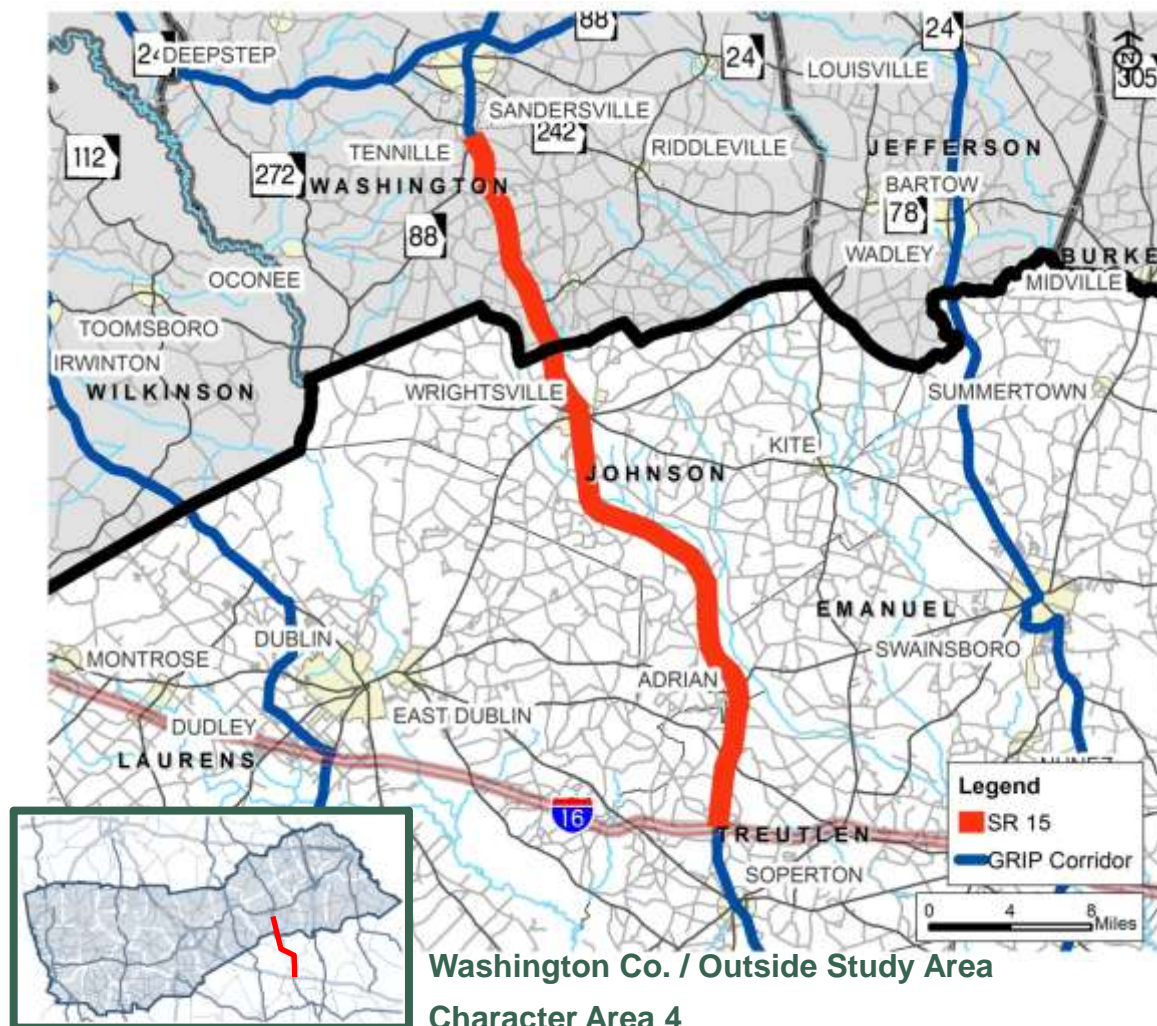
- Length: **39.3 miles** (includes 28.8 miles outside of study area)
- 2035 Volume: **5,400 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **D \ C+** (inside study area)
- **GRIP Corridor**

Connections

- Sandersville
- I-16, Fall Line Freeway
- Kaolin mines to Ports

Potential Environmental Concerns

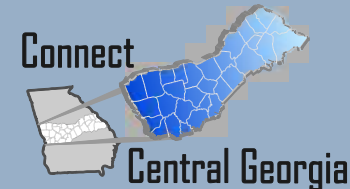
- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Ochoopee River flood zone
 - Conservation land - Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge
 - National historical site - Johnson County Courthouse



Washington Co. / Outside Study Area
Character Area 4

Strategic Connections

SR 17 N



Details

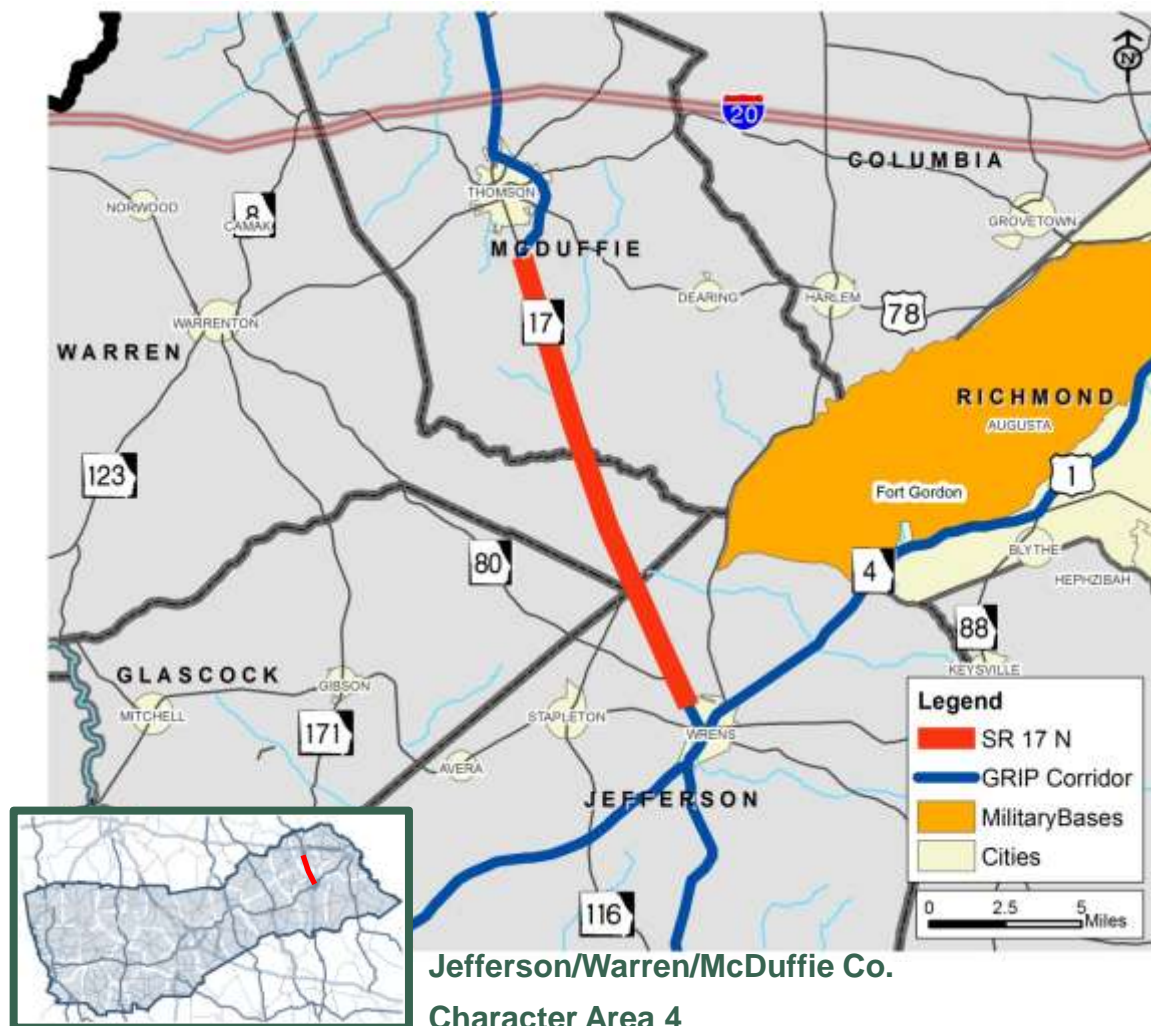
- Length: **15.8 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **4,300 to 6,000 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **C+**
- GDOT #: **222520**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Under Environmental Study
- GDOT #: **222590**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Under Environmental Study
- **GRIP Corridor**

Connections

- Wrens, Thomson
- I-20, US 78, Fall Line Freeway

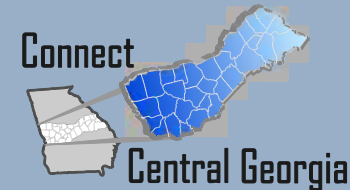
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** to **Moderate** Impacts
 - Wetland and agriculture land



Strategic Connections

SR 17 S



Details

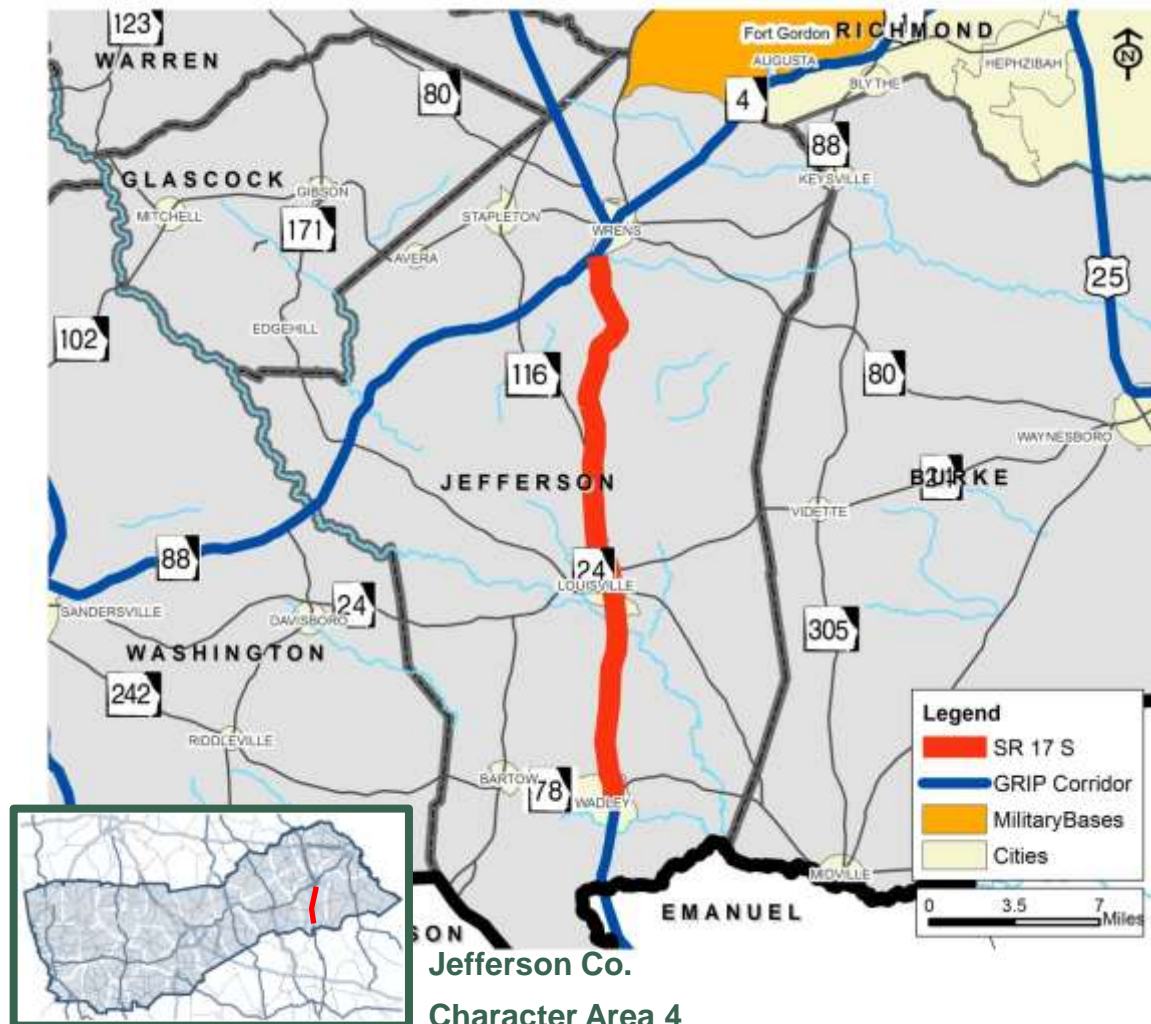
- Length: **23.2 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **6,500 to 7,000 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **C+**
- GDOT #: **222130**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Under Environmental Study
 - TIA RC07-000046
- GDOT #: **222160**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Under Environmental Study
- GDOT #: **222170**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Under Environmental Study
- **GRIP Corridor**

Connections

- Wadley, Louisville, Wrens
- I-16, Fall Line Freeway, SR 24

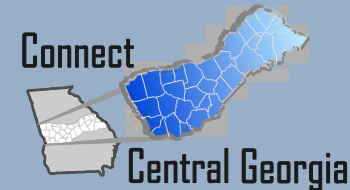
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** to **Moderate** Impacts
 - Water bodies and associated wetland and flood zone
 - Agricultural land



Strategic Connections

SR 18



Details

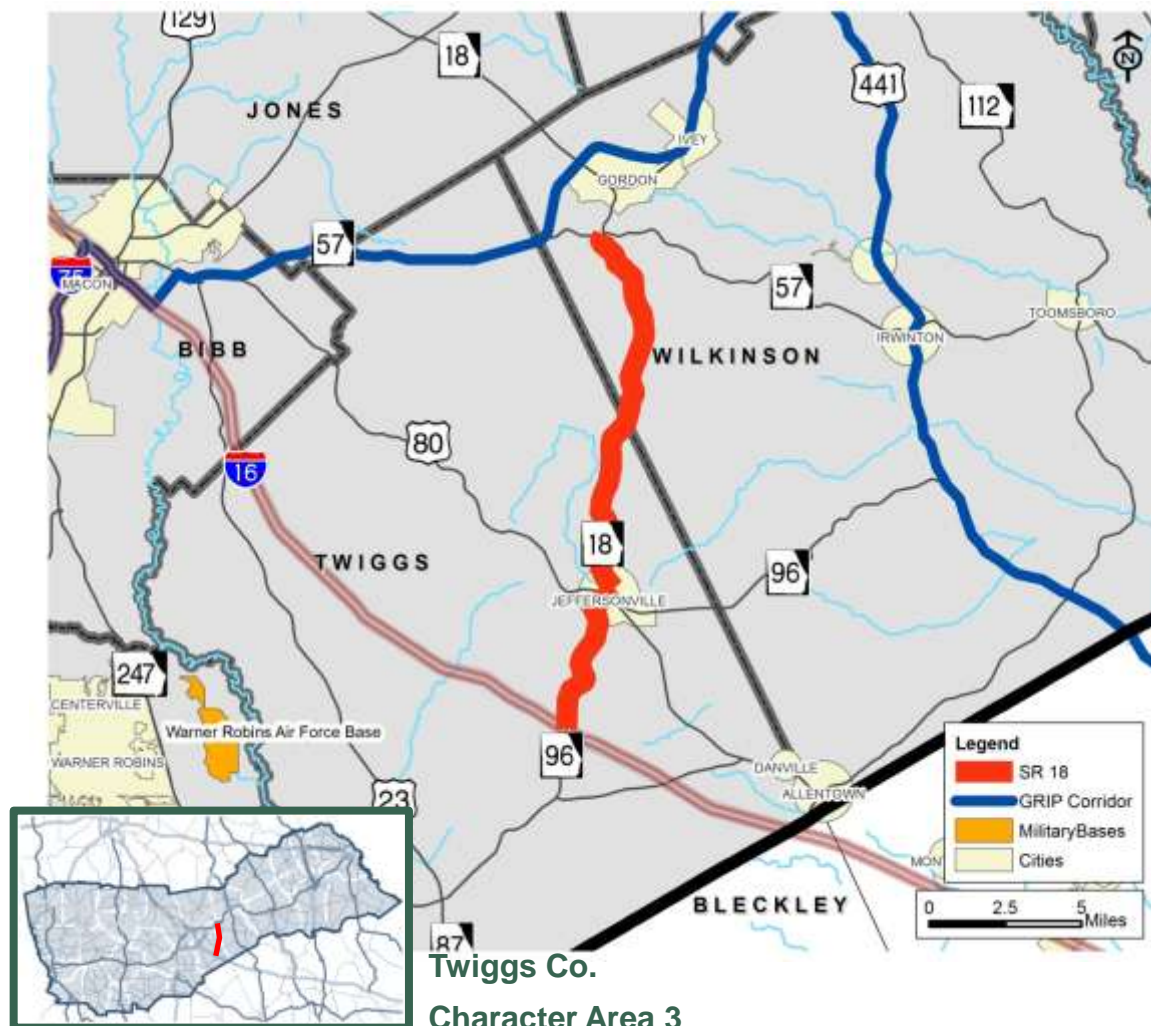
- Length: **18.2 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **1,500 to 1,600 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **C+**

Connections

- Warner Robins, Jeffersonville, Gordon
- I-16, SR 57 (Fall Line Freeway), SR 96
- Alternative to Fall Line Freeway

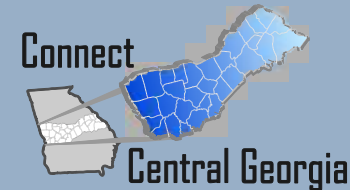
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** Impacts
 - National historical sites in proximity - Twiggs County Courthouse and Wimberly Plantation
 - Big Sandy Creek and Turkey Creek and associated flood zone and wetland



Strategic Connections

SR 36



Details

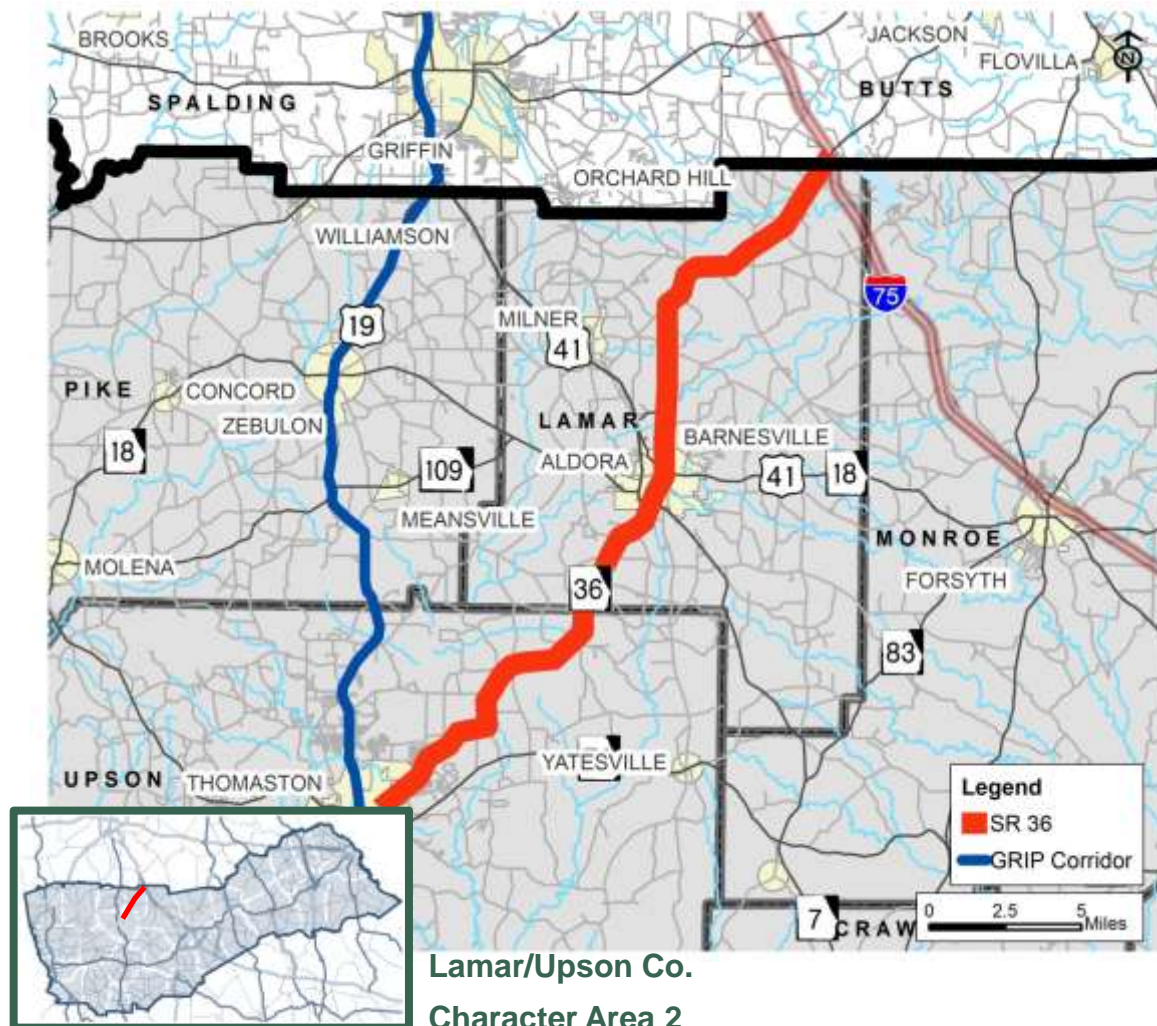
- Length: **29.2 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **4,900 to 7,900 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **C+ / D**
- GDOT #: **0006964**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - No Activities - Long Range
- GDOT #: **0006973**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - No Activities - Long Range
- TIA

Connections

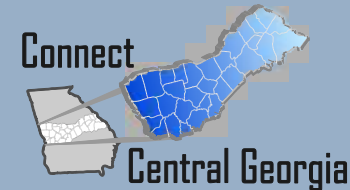
- Thomaston, Barnesville
- I-75, US 19, US 41

Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** to **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Water bodies and associated wetland and flood zone
 - USEPA regulated facilities in proximity
 - National historical sites in proximity - Lamar County Courthouse and Carnegie Library of Barnesville



Strategic Connections SR 44



Details

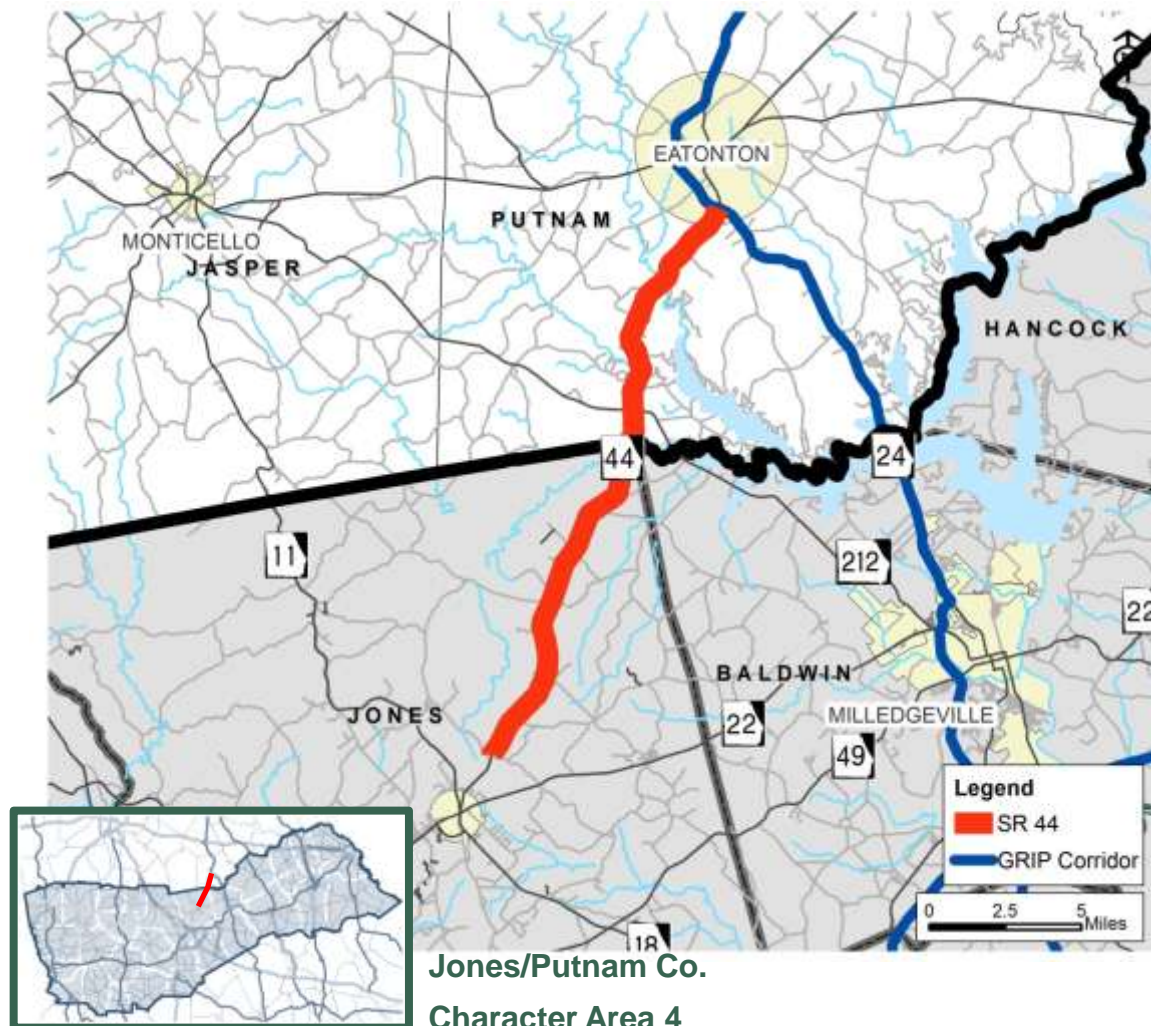
- Length: **20.7 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **8,000 to 9,000 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **D**
- GDOT #: **0001040**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - No Activities - Long Range
- GDOT #: **231620-**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - Designed – awaiting ROW

Connections

- Gray, Eatonton
- US 441, SR 212

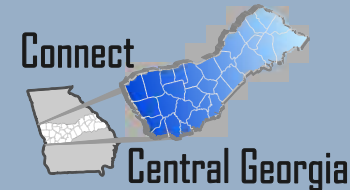
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** to **Moderate** Impacts
 - Conservation land in proximity - Oconee National Forest
 - Water bodies and associated flood zone and wetland
 - USEPA regulated facility in proximity



Strategic Connections

SR 49



Details

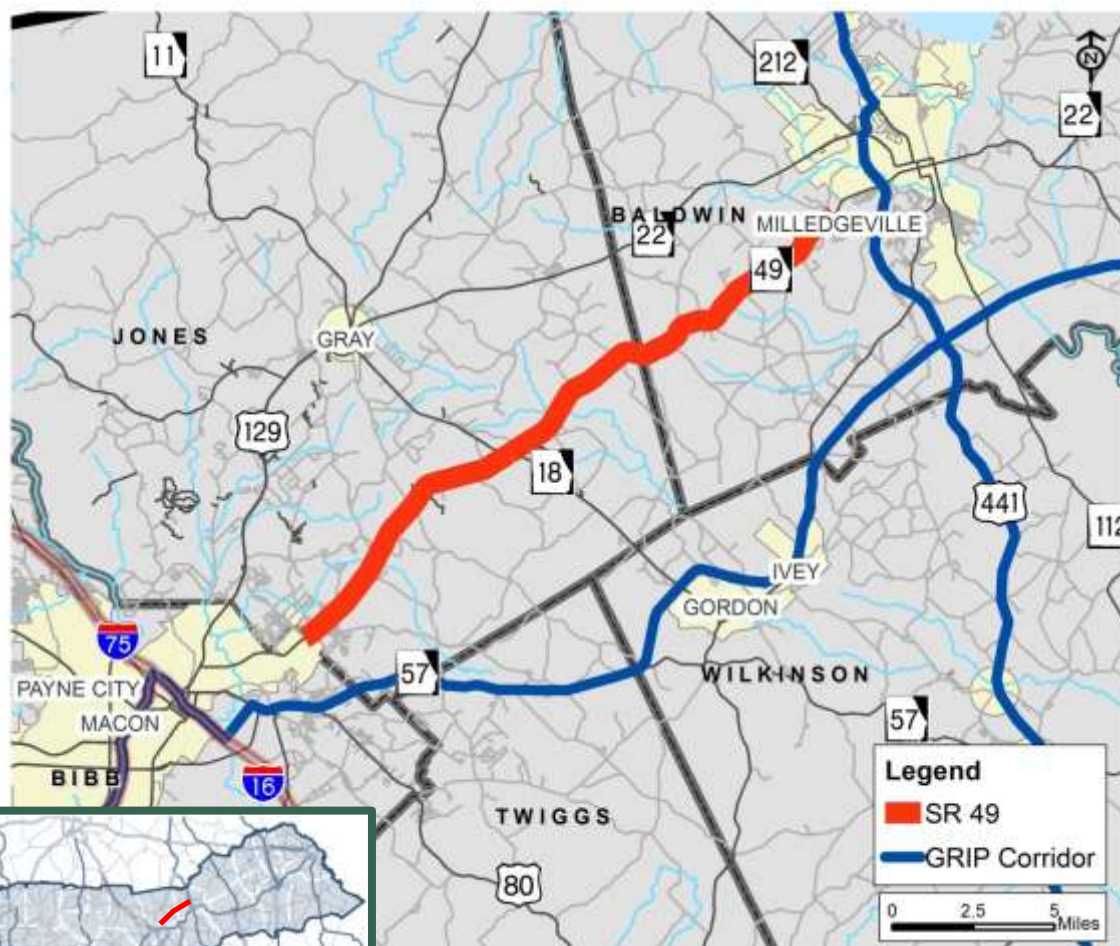
- Length: **21.7 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **8,000 to 10,200 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **D / E**
- GDOT #: **332450**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - No Activities - Long Range

Connections

- Milledgeville, Macon
- I-16, I-75, US 441, SR 18

Potential Environmental Concerns

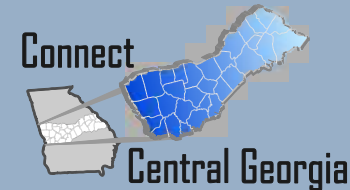
- **Limited Impacts**
 - Sandy Creek and Commissioner Creek and associated flood zone
 - National historical site in proximity - Samuel Rockwell House



Jones/Baldwin Co.
Character Area 3/4

Strategic Connections

SR 96



Details

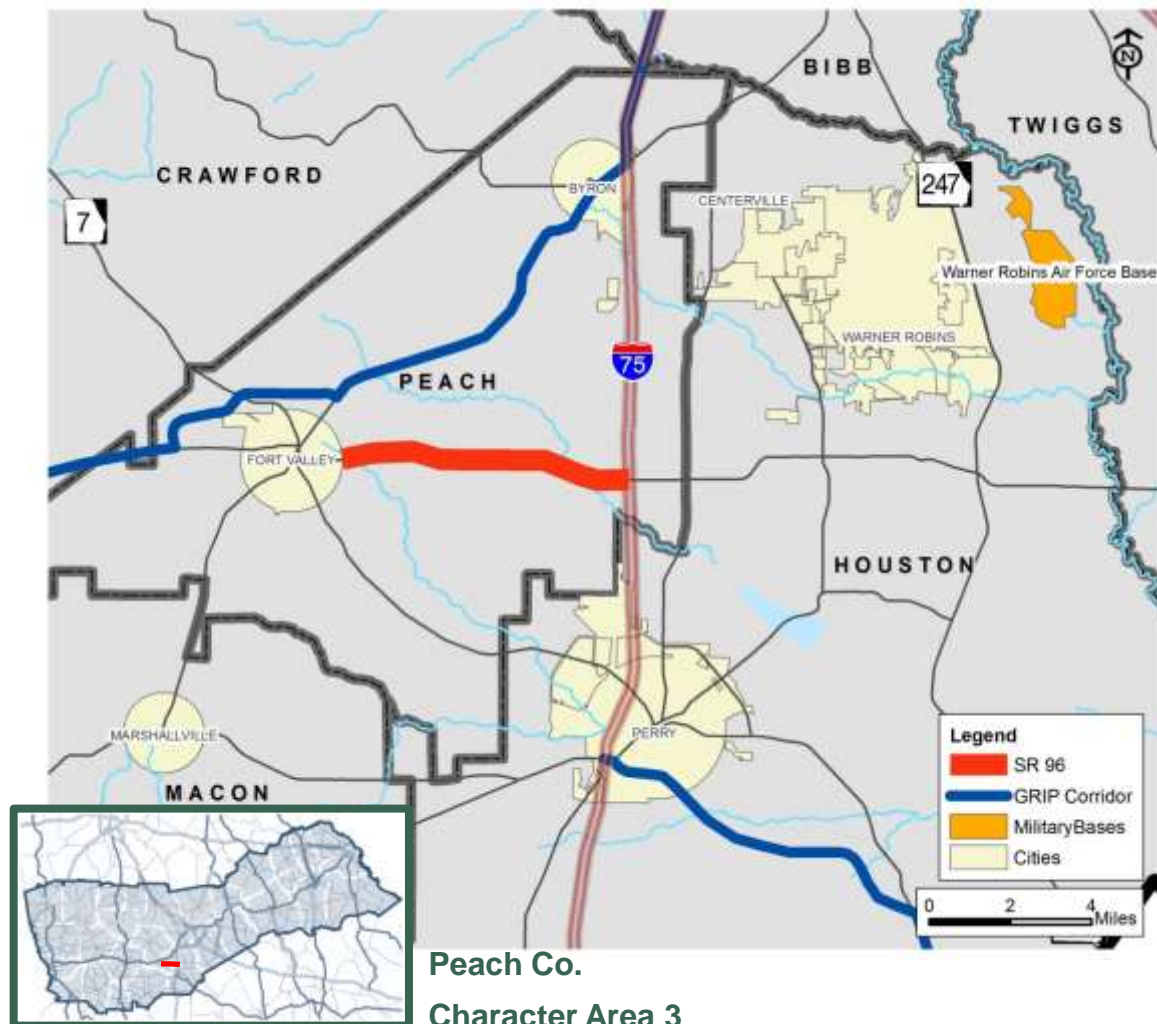
- Length: **7.2 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **12,300 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **E**
- GDOT #: **0008387**
 - 4-Lane Divided Highway
 - No Activities - Long Range
 - *Need to modify termini to extend west from Fire Tower Rd to Venna St*

Connections

- Fort Valley, Warner Robins, Perry
- I-75, Fall Line Freeway
- Alternative to Fall Line Freeway

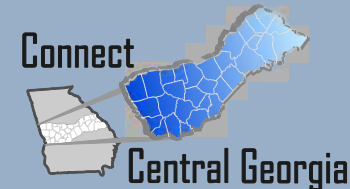
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Mossy Creek and Bay Creek and associated flood zone and wetland
 - Agricultural land and green space



Strategic Connections

SR 109 / SR 74



Details

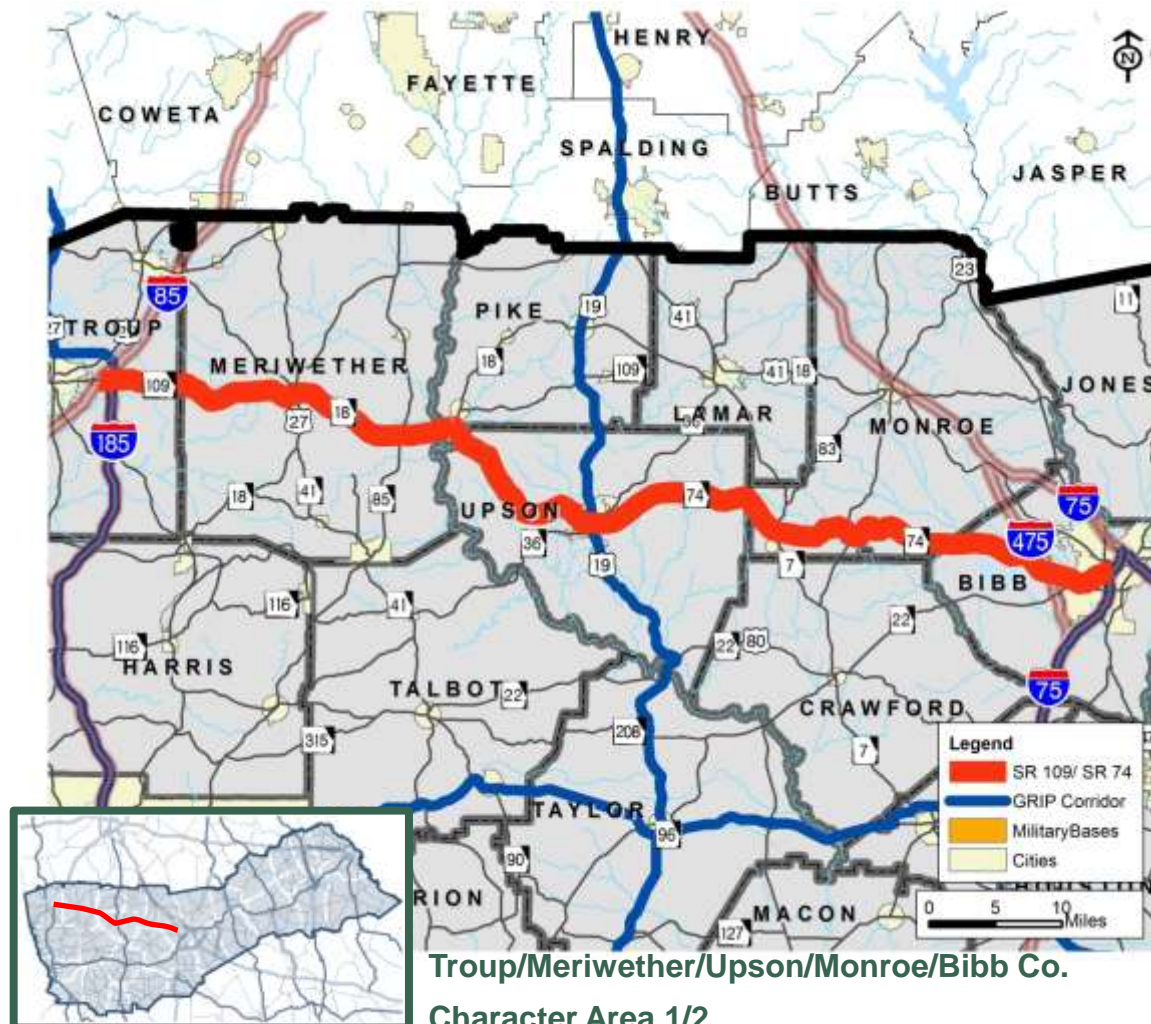
- Length: **87.3 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **2,400 to 15,600 vpd**
- 2035 LOS: **C+ / F**
- Identified in Freight & Logistics Plan

Connections

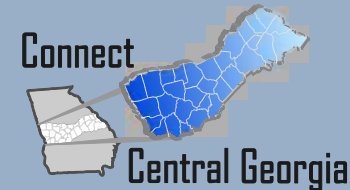
- LaGrange, Thomaston, Macon
- I-75, I-475, I-16, I-85, I-185, US 27, US 19
- KIA and Hyundai Plants to Ports

Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Limited** to **Moderate** Impacts
 - Rare species area
 - Water bodies and associated flood zone and wetland
 - USEPA regulated facilities in proximity
 - National historical sites in proximity



Strategic Connections Sardis-Sgoda Extension



Details

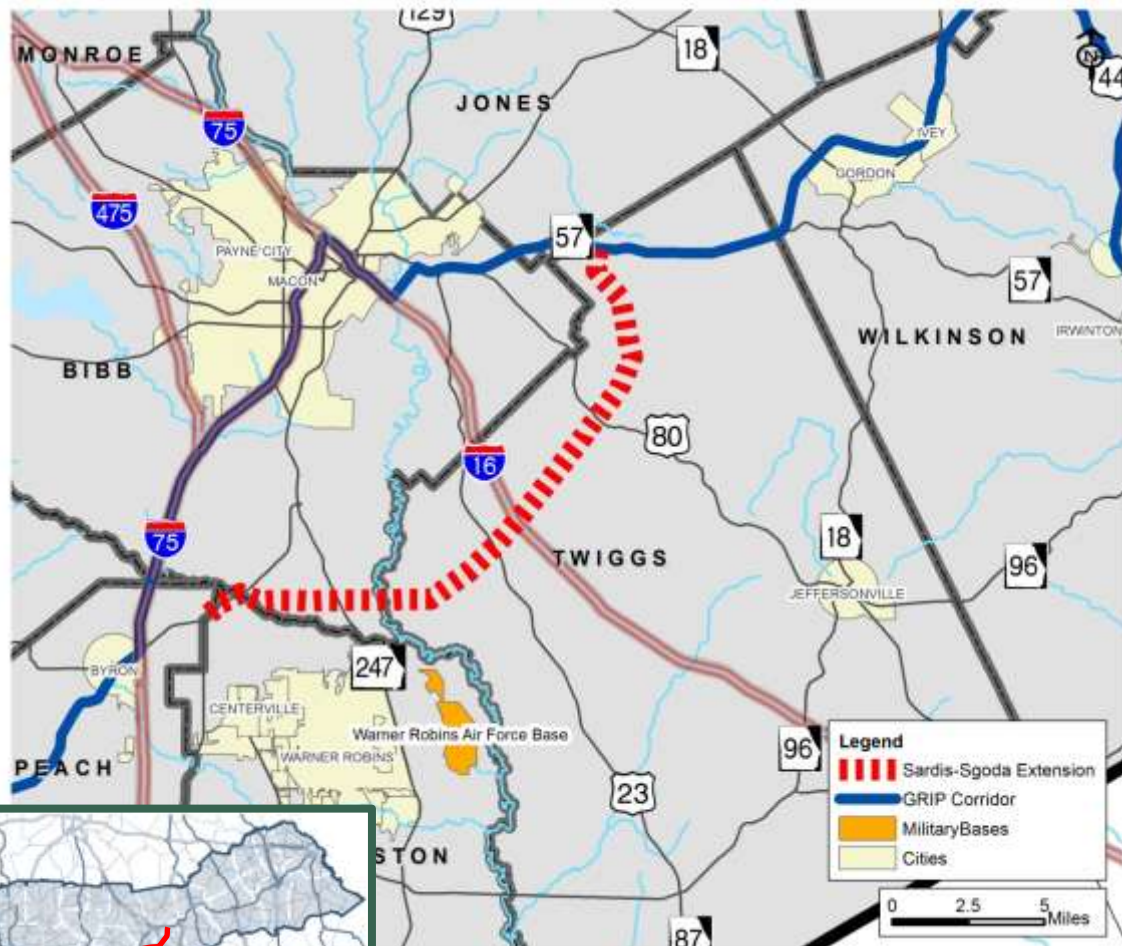
- Length: **21.9 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **1,000 – 10,500 vpd**
- New Connection

Connections

- Byron, Warner Robins, bypass around Macon
- I-75, I-16, SR 57 (Fall Line Freeway)
- Alternative to Fall Line Freeway

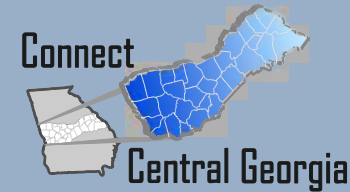
Potential Environmental Concerns

- **Moderate to High** Impacts
 - Ocmulgee River and associated flood zone and wetland
 - National historical sites and conservation land in proximity



Houston/Bibb/Twigg Co.
Character Area 3

Strategic Connections Wrens Bypass



Details

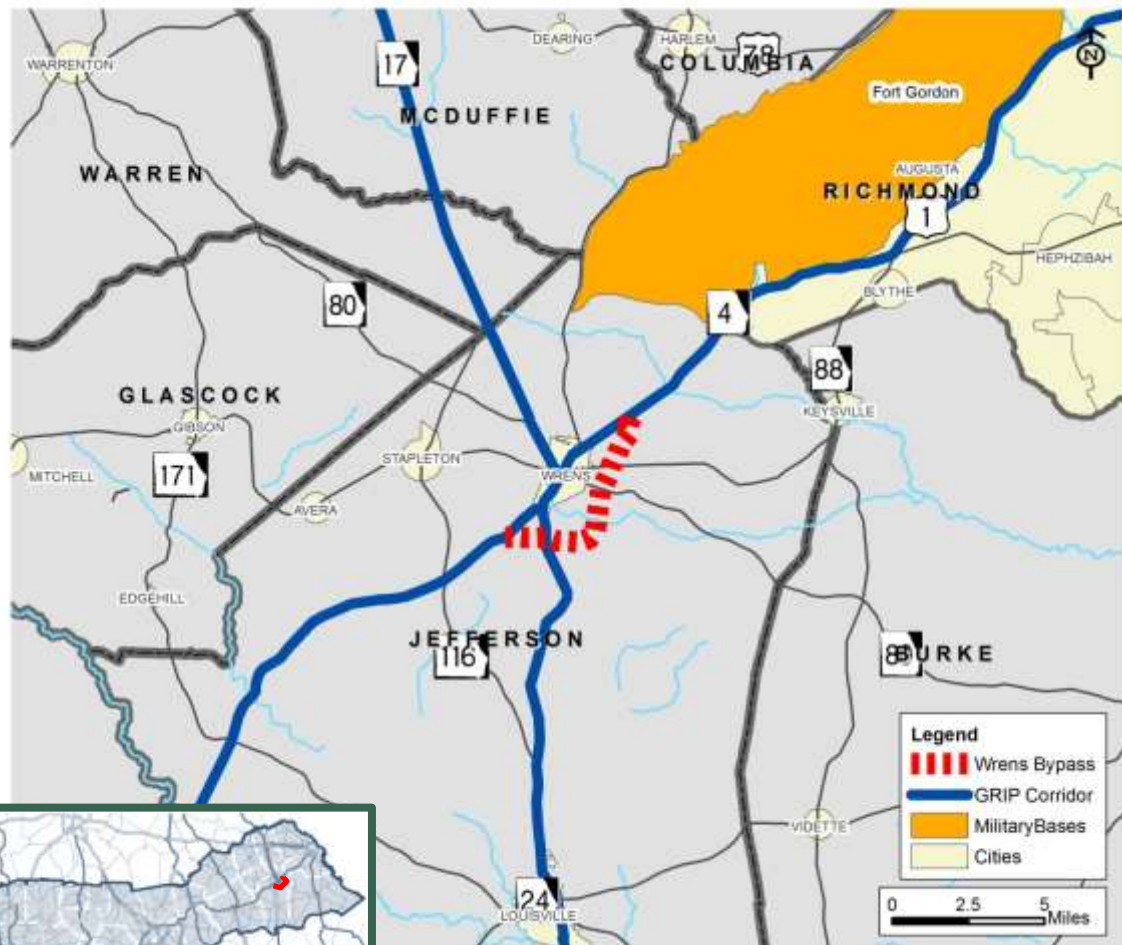
- Length: **7.2 miles**
- 2035 Volume: **3,900 vpd**
- New Connection

Connections

- Sandersville, Augusta, bypass around Wrens
- Fall Line Freeway, SR 17
- Alternative to Fall Line Freeway

Potential Environmental Concerns

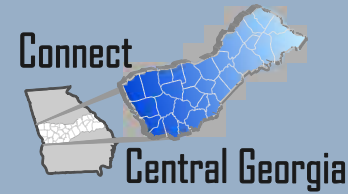
- **Moderate** Impacts
 - Brushy Creek and associated flood zone and wetland
 - 11% of this segment goes across agricultural land



Jefferson Co.

Character Area 4

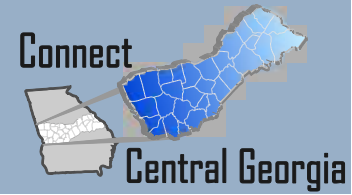
Next Steps



- Finalize Preliminary Improvements
- Develop Cost Estimates
- Conduct Benefit Cost Analysis
- Prioritize Improvements



Questions?



Website: www.dot.ga.gov/connectcentralgeorgia